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TAMILARASU
1970-2020
GOLDEN JUBILEE

Pongal gift hampers with Rs.2,500 cash

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** handed over admission letters for the MBBS course for the academic year 2020-2021, to Government school students who had cleared the NEET examinations and gained admission through the Tamil Nadu Government's 7.5 per cent preferential allotment at a function held at the Nehru Stadium in Chennai on 18.11.2020. The selected Government school students expressed their thanks to the Hon'ble Chief Minister for making their dream of studying medicine a reality.

Hon'ble Chief Minister's hearty greetings for 2021

Greeetings of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** on the occasion of New Year by the Gregorian calendar - 31.12.2020.
(English Translation)

On the eve of New Year by the Gregorian calendar, I am happy to convey my hearty greetings to all my beloved people of Tamil Nadu.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma implemented many welfare schemes to make Tamil Nadu the premier State in India. She toiled tirelessly for the development of the State and to eradicate poverty totally and improve women's lives. Following Hon'ble Amma's footsteps, Hon'ble Amma's Government is implementing various development and welfare schemes with people's welfare as its sole aim. As a result of this, it is creating records in all sectors like agriculture, water management, school education, higher education, health, energy, municipal administration, rural development and social welfare and the State is continuously bagging Central Government's awards.

Let us all utilize best the countless welfare measures that Hon'ble Amma's Government is implementing, improve our standard of living and work together to ensure that a prosperous and strong Tamil Nadu continues to occupy the premier place.

Let the coming year blossom into one that confers perennial prosperity and stable development to the people of Tamil Nadu. With these greetings, I once again convey my good wishes for the New Year.

Tamilarasu

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Thiruvalluvar Year - 2052
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"I wish to point out that Hon'ble Amma's Government is the only Government that functions on the lines of the two great leaders, Ponmana Chemmal Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. and Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, and on the lines of Perarignar Anna who declared, 'We see God in the smile of the poor'."

- Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

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- Joyous festival for rice card holders with Rs.2,500 in cash and full sugarcane in Pongal gift hamper 05
- Hon'ble Chief Minister opens 'Amma Mini Clinics' for free treatment of minor ailments 07
- Hon'ble Chief Minister rings in Mayiladuthurai as new District 21
- Ten more day-care centres for muscular dystrophy patients; 10,000 smart phones for differently abled 28
- Ariyalur District curbs Corona; keeps graph of welfare, developmental schemes up 34
- Heartfelt thanks of economically poor students for medical seats under 7.5 per cent sub-quota 51
- Infrastructure facilities for schools created at a cost of Rs.7.5 Crore 63

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First Wrapper

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** inaugurated the scheme of providing special gift hampers to rice card holders for the Tamil festival of Pongal at the Secretariat, Chennai on 21.12.2020. The gift consists of Rs.2,500 cash, 1 kg raw rice, 1 kg sugar, 20 gm cashew nuts, 20 gm dry grapes, 5 gm cardamom and 1 full sugarcane. On that occasion the Hon'ble Chief Minister also inaugurated the scheme of providing dhoti and saree at no cost.

Joyous festival for rice card holders with Rs.2,500 in cash and full sugarcane in Pongal gift hamper

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami,** at the Secretariat, Chennai on 21.12.2020, inaugurated distribution of gift hampers to rice cardholders on the occasion of the Pongal festival. The gift hamper consists of Rs. 2,500 cash, one kg of raw rice, one kg of sugar, 20 gms each of cashew and dry grapes, 5 gms of cardamom and one full size sugarcane. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, on the occasion, also inaugurated distribution of 1.80 Crore dhotis and an equal number of sarees. To mark the inauguration of the scheme, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over the gift hamper to 9 beneficiaries.

To enable people to celebrate the Pongal festival in an excellent manner, the Government of Tamil Nadu every year gives Pongal gift hampers to all rice cardholders.

As far as this year is concerned, many people have lost their means of livelihood because of the Corona pandemic. In the Delta Districts, workers have been badly affected by heavy rains and storms. Overall, people in the State have been affected either by the Corona pandemic or by heavy rains and storms.

Taking these into consideration, Hon'ble Amma's Government announced a Pongal gift of Rs.2,500 in cash to all 2.06 Crore rice cardholders to enable people to celebrate the festival joyously. The scheme will be implemented from January 4, 2021, Along with the cash, a gift hamper of one kg each of raw rice and sugar, 20 grams dry grapes and cashew, 5 gm of cardamom will be given. This year, instead of a small piece of sugarcane, a full size sugarcane will be given. These gifts will be given in a good cloth bag to the cardholders. This was announced by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu at a function in Edappadi Panchayat Union in Salem District on 19.12.2020.

As per the announcement, the Hon'ble Chief Minister formally inaugurated the Pongal Gift Scheme to rice cardholders by handing over the gift bag to 9 rice cardholders at the Secretariat today (21.12.2021).

To provide continuous employment to handloom weavers in the State and to improve their livelihood, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar in 1983 announced that dhotis and sarees at no cost would be given to poor people. As per Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar's announcement, every year dhotis and sarees are given at no cost to poor people. This scheme not only benefits poor people but also provides continuous employment to Handloom and Powerloom weavers. For the year 2021, about 1.80 Crore dhotis and sarees each, totally costing Rs. 484.25 Crore will be given during the Pongal Festival. As a token inaugurating the scheme, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over free dhotis and sarees to 9 families.

Hon'ble Chief Minister opens 'Amma Mini Clinics' for free treatment of minor ailments

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami,** after inaugurating Amma Mini Clinics set up by the Greater Chennai Corporation at Sheik Mesthiri street, Royapuram Zone, M.P.M. Street, Vyasarpadi, Tondiarpet Zone and at Kutchery Road, Mylapore, Teynampet Zone on 14.12.2020. *(English Translation)*

Bowing to Goddess Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma,

To provide quality health care services even to marginalized people, Hon'ble Amma and following her Hon'ble Amma's Government have been setting up infrastructure facilities and implementing many welfare schemes. Two hundred and fifty-four new Primary Health Centres were created all over Tamil Nadu both during Hon'ble Amma's rule and after her demise and 166 Primary Health Centres were upgraded with 30-bed strength and scan facilities so that the poor and the downtrodden in rural areas could get appropriate treatment. Through these measures, Hon'ble Amma's Government has created the facilities for treating patients in their own places.

Apart from this, 52 Government Sub Health Centres and Primary Health Centres have been upgraded into Taluk Government hospitals on public demand. Amma Baby Care Kits have been distributed to 16.17 Lakh babies at a cost of Rs.219 Crore. Besides Amma Arogya Thittam, Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Assistance scheme, Rs.4,000 financial assistance scheme for pregnant women, 9.69 Lakh persons were given counselling through 104 medical service centres and 902 new vehicles were inducted into the fleet of '108' emergency ambulance vans. 46.08 persons including 11.26 Lakh pregnant women

have benefited through these new ambulance vehicles. High grade specialty hospitals with trauma treatment centres have been created at a cost of Rs.150 Crore each at the Government medical colleges at Madurai, Thanjavur and Tiruchirappalli. Under the Mobile Hospital scheme, 7.62 Lakh camps were conducted and 6.30 Crore people benefited. Under the Amma Body Scan Scheme and Amma women whole body scan scheme, 67,077 persons were examined. The Government of Tamil Nadu has installed the high-tech equipment, Linear Accelerator in 10 Government hospitals at a cost of Rs.190 Crore for providing super-scale treatment for cancer. We are providing more facilities in Government hospitals than the private hospitals. The Adyar Cancer Centre, Chennai has been upgraded as a Centre of Excellence at the state-level at a cost of Rs.120 Crore. Through this, Hon'ble Amma's Government has helped cancer patients from the poor and downtrodden families get the best treatment. Four cancer treatment zones have been set up at a cost of Rs. 59 Crore. At a cost of Rs.300 Crore, 56 C.T. scans, 22 MRI scans, 18 cathlabs and 530 numbers of dialysis equipment have been given to Government hospitals. It is not enough to set up hospitals; Hon'ble Amma's Government has provided excellent equipment for treatment in the hospitals and our doctors are giving to the poor more advanced treatment than that available in private hospitals. Through the Medical Services Recruitment Board, 31,868 persons have been appointed including 9,726 doctors and 15,659 nurses. An international yoga and naturopathy science centre of global standards is being set up at the Chengalpattu Government Medical College at a cost of Rs.96.31 Crore. Fifteen District and subsidiary District hospitals and centres of excellence for obstetrics and gynaecology in Kanniyakumari Government Medical College hospitals, have been set up at a cost of Rs. 307 Crore. Steps have been taken to upgrade 11 CEmONC (comprehensive emergency obstetrics and neo-natal care) centres at a cost of Rs.130.50 Crore. Hon'ble Amma's Government has set up a record of creating 11 Government medical colleges in 11 Districts at an estimate of Rs.3,995 Crore; through this, Hon'ble Amma's Government has helped 1,650 more students to study medicine in medical colleges.

There were just 1,945 medical seats in the state till 2011 when Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma assumed office as Chief Minister. This was raised to 3,060 by Hon'ble Amma during her period of rule till 2016. Through the creation of 11 Government medical colleges with hospitals, 1,650 new seats have been added. Now, Hon'ble Amma's Government has helped 5,300 more students to study medicine in medical colleges.

It is Hon'ble Amma's Government that has enabled poor students studying in Government schools take to the study of medicine through a sub quota of 7.5 per cent for them. Studying in medical colleges was an unattainable goal for students from poor families. That condition has now been altered and our Government has created the conditions for such students to study medicine. In the current year, 313 students who studied in Government schools and passed the NEET examination also, have got MBBS seats. Last year, only six students among the 41 per cent of students in Government schools could get medical seats. I am duty-bound to mention that changing such a situation and helping 313 persons to get a medical seat

through the steps taken by Hon'ble Amma's Government, is a historic achievement. Also, Hon'ble Amma's Government is creating a revolving fund of Rs.16 Crore towards payment of college fee for these students who are unable to incur that cost.

It is Hon'ble Amma's Government that has raised the ceiling for treatment under the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme from Rs. 2 Lakh to Rs. 5 Lakh. Again, it is this Government that has bagged the national award for being the premier State in organ donation at the national level for the sixth time.

Hon'ble Prime Minister convened a meeting of all Hon'ble Chief Ministers through video conferencing regarding Corona virus prevention and learned about the steps taken by the States to control the virus and the extent of State-wise reduction in its spread. At that time, he mentioned that Tamil Nadu was the State which had administered the maximum number of RT- PCR tests. This has helped Tamil Nadu to reduce the Corona virus spread. The Hon'ble Prime Minister appreciated the Tamil Nadu Government and also gave an appreciation certificate. Not only this. In his video conference speech, he mentioned that other States should follow Tamil Nadu. To that extent, Hon'ble Amma's Government took stringent steps to prevent the Corona virus spread; the effort is also yielding good results. At present, the virus infection is gradually petering out and we have got the Hon'ble Prime Minister's appreciation also. I heartily congratulate all those who toiled for this – our doctors, nurses and health workers and Department officials and Government staff who stood by them.

Now, as a new initiative, 2,000 'Chief Minister's Amma Mini Clinics' have been inaugurated all over Tamil Nadu today in places without Primary Health Centres and largely populated by the poor and the vulnerable, to treat minor ailments like ordinary fever. The clinics will be manned by a doctor, a nurse and an assistant. This is also a historic achievement. We are proving that this Government is functioning in the footsteps of Ponmana Chemmal Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. and Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

It is generally said: "Health is Wealth". Wealth, however much it is, cannot be enjoyed once illness overtakes a person. When illness afflicts poor families, they have to spend Rs. 100 or Rs. 200 if they go to private clinics. With the view that the people of Tamil Nadu should live free of diseases and that there should be no financial burden even in the least on the poor as when illness overtakes the family, Hon'ble Amma's Government has chosen the residential areas of the poor to locate Amma Mini Clinics. I wish to say that our Government will continue this service.

Recently, two cyclones – Nivar and Burevi – hit the State. People were affected in both these natural disasters. In that situation, our Government provided food to Chennai people three times a day, free of cost from 06.12.2020 to 13.12.2020 at 860 places. Till now, 1.35 Crore people have been fed. I wish to point out that Hon'ble Amma's Government is the only Government that functions on the lines of the two great leaders, Ponmana Chemmal Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. and Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, and on the lines of Perarignar Anna who declared, "We see God in the smile of the poor".

Nandri! Vanakkam!

‘Tamil Nadu pleased to partner with the Union Government in housing projects’

Speech of the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi. K. Palaniswami**, at the foundation stone laying ceremony of the Global Housing Technology Challenge - India Project of PMAY (Urban) on 01.01.2020.

Vanakkam,

Hon’ble Prime Minister Ji,

Hon’ble Governors,

Hon’ble Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs,

Hon’ble Chief Ministers,

Hon’ble Deputy Chief Minister,

Hon’ble Members of Parliament and Officers,

Happy New Year to all.

At the outset, I sincerely thank Hon’ble Prime Minister for selecting Tamil Nadu which was one among the successful Six States in the implementation of the “Housing for All” scheme for the Global Housing Technology Challenge – India Project.

Tamil Nadu is the most urbanized State in the country where

48.45% of the total population are living in urban areas in which 14.63 Lakh families are living in the urban slums. In order to eradicate the difficulties faced by the urban slum families, late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma had unveiled Tamil Nadu VISION 2023, which envisages Slum Free Cities in Tamil Nadu by 2023. Hon'ble Amma realizing the aspirational housing requirements of urban poor families ordered that the tenements must have a bedroom, a hall, a kitchen, toilet, bathroom and a balcony to be built with a plinth area of at least 400 square feet and be provided with fans and electrical fittings.

Under the PMAY-Gramin, the unit cost per house is Rs.1.20 Lakh which includes 72 thousand rupees from the Central Government and 48 thousand rupees from the State Government. Additionally, the State Government provides a grant of 50 thousand rupees towards reinforced cement concrete roofing. In addition, 23 thousand rupees in wages under NREGA is given to each beneficiary for construction of toilets.

When I reviewed the scheme recently, I found that the present unit cost is not sufficient for the poorest of poor to construct a house due to increase in prices and loss of livelihood due to COVID-19. I, therefore, sanctioned 70 thousand rupees additionally to each house, increasing the unit cost from Rs.1.70 Lakh to Rs. 2.40 Lakh, costing the State Government Rs. 1,805 Crore for constructing 2.5 Lakh houses.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban), sanction has been accorded to construct 1,62,720 storeyed tenements and 3,42,769 individual houses at a total cost of 27 thousand Crore rupees.

The Government of India, under the Global Housing Technology Challenge, has sanctioned construction of 1,152 tenements with an area of 413 sq.ft. at Perumbakkam, Chennai at a cost of Rs. 116.27 Crore. The project will also include social amenities like a Ration Shop, two Anganwadi centres, a Library, a Milk Booth and six Shops. The project will also have a Sewage Treatment Plant and an Electrical sub-station. This work will be completed within 15 months. This technology will ensure eco-friendly construction fit for diverse climatic quality standards and disaster-proof houses. These tenements will be allotted to the urban poor/slum families living on the banks of waterways and other objectionable lands in Chennai city.

The Government of Tamil Nadu is pleased to partner with Government of India in such initiatives and projects.

Nandri! Vanakkam!

Hon'ble Chief Minister presides over signing of MoUs, inaugurates new projects

'Tamil Nadu has become investment destination and production hub for growing sectors'

Speech delivered by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami,** after the signing of Memoranda of Understanding for new investments, laying foundation stones for new units and inaugurating new projects at the special Growth and Investment Conclave held on 14.12.2020 *(English Translation).*

Bowing to Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, I begin my speech.

I welcome you all once again for this special Growth and Investment Conclave.

Due to excellent performance by Hon'ble Amma's Government, the State has achieved the number one position in India in all Departments.

Innovative thinking for the new world, excellent implementation, continued better performance and stability are the foundation stones of Hon'ble Amma's Government.

In keeping with the dictum of Thiruvalluvar that one should always aim high for good results *("Ulluva Thellaam Uyarvullal Matradhu Thallinun Thallaamai Neerthu"),* Hon'ble Amma's Government has been functioning with focused attention to take the State in the path of continued development and to achieve greater heights.

The present Hon'ble Amma Government's is functioning as one that foresees the future requirements of the people, plans accordingly and creates a better future for the citizens of Tamil Nadu.

During the Corona pandemic, the Government itself was fully with the people in the field and took sustained measures. Taking into consideration both the people's welfare and economic development, Hon'ble Amma's Government introduced lockdown with gradual relaxation now and then. Due to these measures, the State has contained the virus spread to a great extent, besides making for remarkable economic revival in the State.

Due to this only, the Hon'ble Prime Minister has stated that Tamil Nadu is shining as an example for other States in anti-Corona activities, in RT-PCR examination and in relief measures.

Special treatment to all Corona-affected people, best handling of the situation during heavy rains and storms and protecting the welfare of people, administrative ability, attracting the maximum investments in the country and double digit growth in GST collection are among the hallmarks of the State that have made other States look to Tamil Nadu for guidance as they consider Tamil Nadu the model of growth.

As per CARE rating, Tamil Nadu leads the States in India in attracting investments in the first six months of the current financial year (2020-2021).

Tamil Nadu has been selected as the best governed State in the country in a report released by the Central Government.

In overall performance, Tamil Nadu has been selected as the best State by the India Today magazine.

These awards are proof of the best performance of the Government of Tamil Nadu which has as its priorities people's welfare and inclusive growth.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has announced new Electronics and Hardware Manufacturing Policy, Tamil Nadu Aerospace and Defence Policy, Tamil Nadu Solar Energy Policy, Tamil Nadu E-Vehicle Policy, Tamil Nadu IT Policy and Tamil Nadu Food Processing Policy for new entrepreneurs and also gave them clear assurances to pave the way for the future investments in the State.

During the Global Investors Conference in 2015, investments to the tune of Rs. 2,42,160 Crore were received and 98 MoUs were signed, facilitating employment to 4,79,065 persons. Of this 72 per cent of schemes have come into force, which paved the way for Rs.73,711 Crore worth of investment and jobs to 1,86,838 persons. Hon'ble Amma created a record in Tamil Nadu by signing MoUs during her regime.

During the International Investors Conference in 2019, 304 MoUs were signed bringing investments to the tune of Rs. 3 Lakh 501 Crore, which in turn offered jobs to 10.50 Lakh people. Of these,

27 per cent or 81 schemes, worth Rs. 24,492 Crore have started their commercial production, providing employment to 1,10,844 persons. Notable among them are Hyundai Expansion Project, Foxconn, Salcomp, Tata Consultancy Services, Mando, Hannan and TPI Composites. In addition 191 schemes, worth Rs. 2.20 Lakh Crore that assure employment to 5.33 Lakh people are in various stages of implementation.

Following the success of the International Investors Conference, 2019, in the last 22 months alone 120 new MoUs, worth Rs. 60,905 Crore have been signed that would pave way for employment to 1,60,349 people. During the official tour of America, Dubai and other countries by me, 41 MoUs have been signed worth Rs. 8,835 Crore that would provide employment to 35,520 people. Of these, 10 MoUs have come into force and 5 are in various stages of progress.

In the current financial year alone, 55 MoUs, worth Rs.40,719 Crore have been created to create 74,000 new jobs in the State.

Apart from the MoUs, foundation stones have been laid for an IT Park at a cost of Rs. 5,000 Crore by DLF, Ascendas Radial IT Park with an investment of Rs. 1,500 Crore, Pattabiram Tidel IT Park at a cost of Rs. 250 Crore and AEROHUB project at Sriperumbudur Aerospace Park at a cost of Rs. 250 Crore.

The high-level committee headed by me has been monitoring the progress of every investment project and provides necessary guidelines to the project. Apart from this, immediate sanction has been given to 62 big projects of total investment of Rs. 39,941 Crore due to my direct involvement.

As an example of the best administrative capacity of the Government of Tamil Nadu, another incident has happened. At a time when international transport has been curbed due to Corona, the Government of Tamil Nadu has taken many steps for smooth inflow of industrial investment to the State. For the first time in the country, the Government of Tamil Nadu has introduced a facility to international investors to view the site of lands in SIPCOT Industrial Park through a three dimensional facility on the internet. Through this facility, the investors can send their application for the land after studying the nature of the land and infrastructure facilities including roads through the internet.

As yet another special happening, FOXCONN and SIPCOT entered into a MoU for an affordable world class housing colony with all facilities and very close to their factory for the employees of FOXCONN. Due to this, the standard of living of the employees from poor families will improve. This is yet another example of the inclusive growth of the Government.

Today, the Government has signed Memoranda of Understanding with 24 growing sectors such as E-Vehicle production, production of solar energy products, production of electronic products and pharma production. In addition, foundation stones have been laid for five more projects and for one project to start work. Through these schemes, about Rs.24,458 Crore worth of investments have been attracted, and will create 54,218 jobs.

From the above it can be seen clearly that Tamil Nadu is considered as the best investment destination and production hub of the modern world sought by investors both from within the country and from abroad. Tamil Nadu is leading in the international level in textile and

garment production, vehicle manufacturing, engineering goods production and in the production of wind mill spare parts. It is really heartening that the State has been developing as the new centre for growing sectors such as solar energy gadgets and e-vehicle production. The First Solar company of the U.S. is to invest Rs. 4,185 Crore, Ola Electric is set up an E-two wheeler manufacturing unit in Hosur at a cost of Rs. 2,354 Crore and Crown Group is to set up an Aero spare-parts manufacturing unit by at a cost of Rs. 2,500 Crore. These new investments show that Tamil Nadu is developing as the new hub for growing sectors. Apart from these, MoUs as that with Mylon Pharma vindicate that the State is leading in the pharma sector also.

Due to the excellent measures of the Government of Tamil Nadu, new entrepreneurs are of the firm opinion that Tamil Nadu is the best suited State for investments. Today's conclave is a clear proof of this.

I congratulate all the investors who have selected Tamil Nadu for their investments. I also thank foreign envoys and their representatives, investors, the Industries Department, trade organizations and print and media personnel.

I also assure every investor that my Government will provide comprehensive guidance and support for the success of your ventures.

Nandri! Vanakkam!

News in Picture

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** gave away the appointment orders posted on compassionate grounds to the heirs of 13 employees of the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation who had died in harness, at an event held in Secretariat, Chennai on 21.12.2020.

Hon’ble Chief Minister oversees whopping drive across sectors

Eighteen MoUs with investment of Rs. 19,995 crore signed; job potential for 26,509 persons

In the presence of the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami**, 18 MoUs have been signed with a cumulative investment of Rs. 19,995 Crore with an employment potential for 26,509 persons, on 14.12.2020. These investments are across various Sectors, including Electric Vehicles, Solar and Wind Energy, Pharmaceuticals, City Gas, E-education, Textiles amongst others.

In addition to the above, the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu laid the foundation stone for Five projects with an investment commitment of Rs. 4,456 Crore and employment potential to about 27,324 persons and inaugurated a project with an investment commitment of Rs.47 Crore and employment potential for 385 persons.

MoU’s Signed:

1) Ola Electric Mobility has created a revolution in the India and a Consumer friendly Electric Vehicle business model. This company has recently acquired the Amsterdam based Etergo BV. Ola Electric Mobility has proposed to set up an electric two wheeler manufacturing unit in Hosur, Krishnagiri District. The proposed investment in this project is Rs. 2,354 Crore with an employment potential for about 2,182 persons.

2) Torrent Gas Chennai Pvt. Ltd., is planning to establish City Gas Distribution network in Chennai and Thiruvallur. The Company has proposed to invest Rs. 5,000 Crore with an employment potential for 5,000 persons.

3) First Solar, headquartered in Tempe, Arizona is the world's largest manufacturer of thin film photovoltaic (PV) solar modules using an advanced thin film semiconductor technology. It has proposed to establish a Solar Module manufacturing facility in Tamil Nadu. The proposed investment in the above manufacturing facility is Rs. 4,185 Crore with an employment potential for about 1,076 persons.

4) Society for Smart Electric Mobility (SSEM) has proposed to set up an EV and future mobility park with skill development, research centre and also facilitate the setting up on manufacturing industries within the park in Thathanur, Tiruppur District with a proposed investment of Rs. 2,500 Crore and employment potential for 1,000 people.

5) Voltas is a market leader in the Room Air Conditioner business and Commercial Refrigeration products. It has proposed to set up a manufacturing facility of AC and commercial refrigeration products in Vedal Village, Kancheepuram District. The proposed investment in this project is about Rs. 1,001 Crore with an employment potential for about 2,000 persons.

6) Mylan Laboratories is a US based speciality pharmaceuticals manufacturer. It has proposed to establish an injection manufacturing project in Kurubarapalli, Krishnagiri District with an investment of Rs.350 Crore and employment potential for 250 persons.

7) Gurit India Pvt. Ltd., is a Swiss based company whose strategic market is Wind energy. It has proposed to establish a project for manufacture of wind blade components at Sriperumpudur, Kancheepuram District with an investment of Rs.320 Crore and employment potential for 300 persons.

8) YaClass is a Latvian company providing international web-based educational platform for high school students, current market leaders in Latvia and Russia. It has proposed to establish an Edutech Project in Chennai with an investment of Rs. 300 Crore and employment potential for about 1,000 persons.

9) KPR Sugar & Apparels Limited is a large vertically integrated company spanning across Yarn, Fabrics, Garments and White Crystal Sugar. It has proposed to establish a Textile Mill project in Perumanallur, Tiruppur District with an investment of Rs. 250 Crore and employment potential for 5,000 persons.

10) Magnus Infrastructure LLP has proposed to establish an Industrial Park in Ponneri, Thiruvallur District with an investment of Rs. 200 Crore and employment potential for about 150 persons.

11) Stanadyne is an US based global automotive technology leader in engine-based fuel and air management systems. It has proposed to establish a project for manufacture of Fuel injection pumps with an investment of Rs. 180 Crore and employment generation for about 1,500 people.

12) Mahindra CIE is a leading manufacturer of forged automotive components and it has proposed to establish a project for manufacture of auto components in Hosur, Krishnagiri. The investment proposed is about Rs.100 Crore with an employment potential for about 500 persons.

13) Anjan Drugs is proposing to set up a downstream project of backward integration in SIPCOT Gangaikondan, Tirunelveli District, to manufacture key raw materials and intermediates for APIs. The investment proposed in this project is about Rs. 60 Crore with an employment potential for about 500 people.

14) MAIVA Pharma is manufacturing sterile liquid injections for the domestic and global market and is expanding operations in SIPCOT Hosur, Krishnagiri District, by installing two high-speed vial filling lines. The investment proposed in this project is Rs. 500 Crore with an employment generation for about 220 people.

15) Eickhoff Wind Asia Pvt. Ltd., from Germany manufactures machinery and gearing

technology designed to withstand extreme conditions. It has proposed to establish a manufacturing facility to produce gearboxes for renewable energy sector. The investment proposed in this project is about Rs.410 Crore with an employment potential for about 525 persons.

16) Cubic Modular Systems from Denmark is a global manufacturer of produces a wide products used in the industry, in mining, airports, ships, data centres, hospitals, power plants, wind mills etc. It has proposed to establish a project for manfuacture of sheet metal boxes with an investment of Rs. 120 Crore and an employment potential for about 106 persons.

17) Italian company Sabaf, manufactures components for household cooking appliances including taps, thermostats and burners for gas appliances and has Five manufacturing sites across the world. It has proposed to establish a project for manufacture of Home appliances with an investment of Rs. 75 Crore and an employment potential for about 200 persons.

TIDCO MoU

18) Crown Group has proposed to establish an Aerospace Cluster Park, Manufacturing of Flight components and sub systems and Drone manufacturing in Salem District with an investment of Rs. 2,500 Crore and employment potential for about 5,000 persons.

Foundation Stone & Inauguration

1) M/s. Adani Data Centre for which MoU was signed in the presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister in July 23,2020 has proposed to establish a Data Centre project in Siruseri, Chengalpattu District. The investment proposed in this project is Rs. 2,300 Crore with an employment potential for about 1,000 Persons.

2) M/s. Torrent Gas from France has proposed to establish a City Gas Distribution Network in Thirumarugal Village, Nagapattinam District with an investment of Rs. 600 Crore and an employment potential for about 100 persons. This project MoU was signed during the Global Investors Meet 2019.

3) M/s. Baettr India Pvt. Ltd., from Germany has proposed to establish a Casting manufacturing project in Thervoykandigai, Thiruvallur District with an investment of Rs. 536 Crore and employment potential for about 320 Persons. The MoU for this project was signed in the presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister on May 27,2020.

4) M/s. SPR Group is establishing an IT Park Zone and Market Plaza in Perambur, Chennai. The investment in this proposed to be Rs. 590 Crore with an employment potential for about 24,904 persons. This project MoU was signed during the Global Investors Meet 2019.

5) M/s. Indospace Vallam II Pvt. Ltd., has proposed to establish an Industrial park with an investment of Rs. 430 Crore with an employment potential for about 1,000 persons in Vallam Vadagal, Kancheepuram District.

6) M/s. NPCI Development Centre has established an IT / Back Office project in Commerzone IT Park – Porur, Chennai at an investment of Rs. 47 Crore with an employment potential for about 385 persons. The Center will act as a centre to manage backend digital transactions.

The cumulative investment in the above 24 projects (MoU projects, Foundation Stone laid projects and inaugurated project) is about Rs. 24,458 Crore and the employment potential will be about 54,218 persons.

SIPCOT MoU

SIPCOT has proposed to establish an Industrial Housing for accommodation for employees of Foxconn in its Industrial park at Vallam Vadagal, Sriperumpudur Taluk, Kancheepuram District. An MoU was signed between SIPCOT and Foxconn for this project.

Inauguration of GIS Portal of SIPCOT

In addition to the above, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu inaugurated the new GIS Web Portal of SIPCOT. SIPCOT has developed new GIS web portal using latest Drone technology by Mapping the properties and utilities of all the Industrial Complexes. The information includes Industrial/ Commercial Plots, area of the plots, Allotted/ Vacant plots and available infrastructures, amenities etc. The global investors can directly access and view the available plots using High Resolution Imagery.

Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurates Mayiladuthurai District

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** inaugurated through video conferencing, on behalf of the Department of Revenue and Disaster Management, at the Secretariat, Chennai on 28.12.2020, the newly created Mayiladuthurai District by bifurcating Nagapattinam District. Mayiladuthurai will be the headquarters of the newly formed District.

On 24.03.2020, the Hon'ble Chief Minister announced in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly under rule 110 that Nagapattinam District would be split into two to form the Mayiladuthurai District as the 38th District of Tamil Nadu for administrative convenience and to ensure Government schemes reach the people quickly.

In accordance with the announcement, a G.O. was issued on 07.04.2020 for forming Mayiladuthurai District as the 38th District of the State. A special officer was appointed and works to form the new District were started. On 28.12.2020, G.O. No. 796 was issued for the creation of the new District.

The new District comprises two revenue divisions – Mayiladuthurai and Sirkazhi – 4 Taluks – Mayiladuthurai, Sirkazhi, Kuthalam and Tharangampadi -15 firkas and 287 revenue villages. ■

Perambalur District records zero COVID cases; progresses in welfare, development schemes

Speech of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** at the review meeting on the progress of development schemes and anti-Corona activities in Perambalur District, at the District Collector's office on 17.12.2020. *(English Translations)*

Paying obeisance to Goddess Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma,

At the outset, my respects to all the participants in the review meeting on the action taken for the prevention of the Corona virus infection spread in the District and on the schemes announced by the Government.

Yesterday (16.12.2020), not even a single person was affected by the Corona virus infection in Perambalur District. This was due to the Government's instructions to the District Administration and the Health Department to follow the advice given by the medical experts on the prevention of the virus infection spread and the steps taken in a full-fledged manner. Hence, I wish to congratulate the District administration, Health Department and various other Departments for executing excellent preventive steps. Barring Theni District, I visited all the Districts and offered suggestions regarding the measures against the virus spread.

In Greater Chennai Corporation also, a review meeting was held. While all Districts reported incidence of the virus infection, it is to be appreciated that Perambalur District did not have even a single case of affliction. This is the result of the steps we have taken. I express my heart-felt thanks to all the Government staff who toiled for this.

The number of persons affected by this virus infection in Perambalur District till yesterday was 2,252; the number of persons cured was 2,225; the number of dead was 21. On 16.12.2020, no one was affected by this disease; no one had died of it. Six persons are under treatment at present. The number of tests conducted till 16.12.2020 is 63,639; yesterday alone 502 persons were subjected to testing. There are 2 testing centres in this District. There are enough hospitals and bed facilities to cure the affected persons and there is enough stock of equipment. So too, N95 face mask, three-fold facemask, PPE kits, thermal scanner, RT-PCR Kits and zinc and multi-vitamin tablets. As per the advice of the medical experts committee set up by the Government, fever camps were held in all areas for preventing the virus infection spread. In this District, 7,221 fever camps were held at the rate of 30 per day and 1, 88,785 persons were subjected to testing.

Besides launching house-to-house visit by the staff of the Departments of Health and Local Administration to detect and test persons exhibiting the symptoms of the infection, as well as to treat and cure them, the mobile medical team is also immediately rushed to a virus affected area if the District Administration/ Health Department is alerted about it to test the people there and start treatment to those exhibiting symptoms; so much so, a no-virus situation has been created in Perambalur District. There are no containment zones in this District. Expenditure incurred in preventing the virus spread in this District is Rs.6.48 Crore. I once again congratulate the District Administration for having taken many excellent steps in this way.

The Chief Minister's Special Grievance Redressal Camps were held in all Districts. The organization of the camps is a sequel to an announcement I made in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly under Rule 110. The idea behind holding the camp is that rather than people approaching the Government to solve their problems, the Government must reach out to the people and extend the required assistance to them. In Perambalur District, these camps were held in 152 villages. Of the 9,844 petitions received, 4,498 were found to be eligible. In these petitions, 1,374 pertained to patta transfer and 1,111 for grant of old age pension. A target of 6,000 was fixed for the distribution of house site patta for the financial year 2019-2020 and it is appreciable it has been carried out cent per cent. Under the Social Security Scheme, a monthly pension of Rs.1,000 is being distributed to 45,857 persons through all types of pension schemes.

As for the Public Works Department, under the NABARD scheme, the Visvakudi reservoir has been set up across Kallar Odai, Thondamandurai village, Veppanthattai Taluk at a cost of Rs.33.07 Crore; construction of an anaicut across Vellaru, Keezhakudikadu village, Kunnam Taluk at a cost of Rs.8.11 Crore has been completed; construction of an anaicut across Kallaru, V.Kalathur village, Vepanthattai Taluk at an estimate of Rs. 8 Crore, has been completed; work is in progress in setting up a new reservoir across Marudhayaru, Kottarai village, Alathur Taluk at an estimate of

Rs.92.70 Crore; renovation works on Valikandapuram anaicut, Valikandapuram village, Veppanthattai Taluk at a cost of Rs.79 Lakh are progressing.

During the centenary celebrations of Ponmana Chemmal Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R., I announced that basic facilities for tourism development in Visvakudi anaicut area would be implemented at a cost of Rs.2 Crore; those works have been completed and today they have been thrown open for public use.

I announced this year (2020-21) about the restructuring of the anaicut across Chinnaru, Vadakkalur Agraharam village, Kunnam Taluk at a cost of Rs.5.94 Crore and the construction of a check dam across Kallar river, V.Kalathur village, Veppanthattai Taluk at a cost of Rs.6.02 Crore; tenders have been finalized and work on them will start shortly. I also announced the construction of 3 check dams, two across Kallaru at Pandagapadi village, (Rs. 6.70 Crore) and at Vengalam village (Rs.5.35 Crore)-both in Veppanthattai Taluk and the third one across Ezhumur Odai, Kunnam Taluk (Rs.8.56 Crore). Works on them will commence shortly.

Under the 'kudimaramathu' scheme, 38 works were taken up in the last 3 years on an allotment of Rs.5.97 Crore and they are progressing; in the year 2020-2021, 14 works have been taken up and Rs.3.58 Crore has been allotted; of these 7 works have been completed and the remaining ones are in progress. Construction of Taluk office building has been completed and declared open on 04.11.2020 (Revenue and Disaster Management Department); a detailed project report is being prepared at an estimate of Rs.25 Lakh for the third stage of the bypass road to Perambalur town, announced by me, connecting Siruvachur village on NH no.45 with Sencheri village on the Thuraiyur-Perambalur road; works will commence shortly on a over-bridge across Vellaru (Rs.10.34 Crore), announced by me, to connect the Panchayat Union roads in Thiruvalanthurai village, Perambalur District and in Keezhakalpoondi village in Cuddalore District; tender formalities have reached the final stage for widening and developing a stretch of 22.70 km of State highways road no.142 at the Perambalur District border from two lane traffic at a cost of Rs.148.30 Crore; works on it, will start shortly.(Highways Department).

In the agriculture sector, a compensation of Rs.15.43 Crore was approved under the Prime Minister's Crop Insurance Scheme in Perambalur District for the years 2016-2017 to 2019-2020 and about 47,176 registered farmers have benefited. When a severe drought hit the Perambalur District in 2016-2017, a compensation of Rs.50.53 Crore was distributed to the affected farmers. In 2018-2019, when the fall armyworm pest devastated the maize crop in the District, a compensation of Rs.32.18 Crore was disbursed to farmers who sustained great loss.

As for rural development, 7,889 works were started at an estimate of Rs.134.11 Crore under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana in the years 2016-2017 to 2019-2020 and of them 4,044 works have been completed; the remaining works are in progress and they will be completed soon. Under the Affordable Housing Scheme, 504 apartments have been constructed at an estimate of Rs.41.02 Crore at Thuraimangalam scheme area, Kavulpalayam village, Perambalur Taluk. Under the Housing in Own Place scheme, house construction in Perambalur Municipality

area for 490 beneficiaries was taken up at an estimate of Rs.1.47 Crore; construction of 283 houses has been completed and the rest are under various stages of progress. In Town Panchayat areas, works were taken up for 280 beneficiaries at an estimate of Rs.8.40 Crore and construction of 26 houses has been completed; for the rest, works are going on; steps will be taken to expedite the works.

The first phase of giving pipe connections for the year 2020-2021, under the Jal Jeevan Mission in 25 Panchayats at a cost of Rs.22.89 Crore has started and is progressing. Work on a new Combined Water Supply Scheme through TWAD to 73 dwellings in Veppur Panchayat Union at an estimate of Rs.22.84 Crore, announced by me, will start soon. Survey works have started for a separate Rs. 300 Crore water supply scheme, announced by me, to Perambalur Municipality with Kollidam river as the source. The scheme works will start soon. I had announced that 504 apartments would be constructed through the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board at Thuraimangalam village, Perambalur Taluk at a cost of Rs.41.02 Crore; construction works were completed and the apartments were declared open on 26.11.2020.

There are 4,162 Self Help Groups in Perambalur District with a member of 54,129 women. In 2020-2021, bank collateral loan to the extent of Rs.196 Crore has been disbursed to the SHGs. Under the Amma Two-wheeler Distribution Scheme, subsidy for vehicles has so far been given to 20,328 beneficiaries. In 2019-2020, vehicles were allotted to 810 persons and the required steps for that have been taken up.

In the industrial sector, Rs.38.99 Crore loan has been sanctioned under the Central Government's collateral-free emergency bank credit scheme, to 2,069 Micro, Small, Medium Enterprises in this District. At the second global investors meet, held in 2019, Memoranda of Understanding were signed for setting up 98 MSMEs at an investment of Rs.128.57 Crore for creating job opportunities for 3,690 persons. After the signing of the MoUs, 33 enterprises have been started with an investment of Rs.17.76 Crore in Perambalur District so far and 386 persons have been given jobs. Steps are taken to acquire land for setting up a new industrial estate in the 7.60 acres in survey no. 27.23, near the existing Elambalur industrial estate.

Hon'ble Amma's Government has announced many works in Perambalur District and they are all being carried out. Today, foundation stone was laid for 4 works valued at Rs.19.25 Crore; 8 buildings with an estimated cost of Rs.24.41 Crore have been declared open; as for welfare schemes, assistance, valued at Rs.23.58 Crore has been extended to 1,614 beneficiaries. Like these, many works are being implemented in this District; many more works are under Government's consideration.

Hon'ble Amma's Government's strenuous efforts have brought the Corona virus spread under control in Perambalur District. Also, many schemes, announced by Hon'ble Amma's Government have been fulfilled; many schemes are under implementation; some schemes are under Government's examination. Informing this, I wind up my speech.

Nandri! Vanakkam! ■

Development works in Perambalur District

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** declared open 8 completed scheme works valued at Rs.24.41 Crore and laid foundation stones for 4 new scheme works to be executed at an estimate of Rs. 19.25 Crore, at a function held in District Collectorate, Perambalur on 17.12.2020.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** distributed Government welfare assistance to beneficiaries at a function held at District Collectorate, Perambalur on 17.12.2020. MLAs, District Collector Tmt. P. Sri Venkata Priya I.A.S. and other high Government Officials were present on the occasion.

Time extension of 5 years for registering child's name in birth certificate

Registering birth is the first right of children. It is proof of the child's citizenship. The Birth and Death Registration Act 1969 has made provision for registering the birth of a child within 21 days of birth and getting the birth certificate free of cost. The certificate is complete only when the name of the child is recorded in the certificate.

The birth certificate is necessary for getting admission to schools, to get Voter Identity Card, for proof of age and to get a driving vehicle license, passport and visa.

If the birth of a child is registered without its name, then its name should be registered within 12 months of birth by the parents or guardian of the child by giving a written assurance to the Registrar of Births and Deaths concerned free of cost. After 12 months, the name of the child should be registered, and within 15 years by paying the necessary fee.

As per the revised Tamil Nadu Birth and Death Rules 2000,

✶ provision had been made to permit the registration of names of children born after 01.01.2000, up to 31.12.2004;

✶ the Government issued orders extending the above time limit by five years up to 31.12.2019.

With the deadline ending on 31.12.2019, people have been put to hardship to register the names of their children. Due to this, many non-resident Indians find it difficult to get the citizenship of the host countries and students going abroad for higher studies to get certificates with their names.

For the purpose of removing the difficulties,

✶ for birth certificates registered before 01.01.2000 without name;

✶ Extension of 5 years has been given by the Registrar General of India to register names of children whose birth registration without name has gone past the permitted duration of 15 years.

If the name of the child is registered once, it cannot be altered again. So, before registering the name of the child, finalize the name of the child and approach the Births and Deaths Registrar and give written assurance to him.

Where to apply for Registration:

Gram Panchayat – Village Administrative Officer; Town Panchayat – Executive Office / Sanitary Inspector; Cantonment – Sanitary Inspector; Municipality/ Corporation - Sanitary Inspector; Public Health Centres – and Government Hospitals – Health Inspectors.

This extension will not be given in future. So people are requested to make use of this opportunity and register the names of their children in their birth certificates.

Ten more day-care centres for muscular dystrophy patients; 10,000 smart phones for differently abled

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami,** at the Secretariat, chennai on 21.12.2020, declared open on behalf of the Welfare of Differently Abled Persons Department 10 Day Care Centres for persons affected by Muscular Dystrophy in Salem, Thiruvannamalai, Dindigul, Virudhunagar, Thanjavur, Thoothukudi, Villupuram, Dharmapuri, Tiruchirappalli and Coimbatore Districts. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also inaugurated on the occasion, distribution of 10,000 smart phones with apps costing totally Rs. 10 Crore, for visually and hearing disabled persons to enable them to communicate with others.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister on the floor of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 11.07.2019 made a statement under Rule 110 that at present Day Care Centres are functioning in four Districts in the State with Government aid for the convenience of persons affected with Muscular Dystrophy. Now, similar Day Care Centres with gadgets will be opened in 10 more Districts.

Following the announcement, for the benefit of persons affected with Muscular Dystrophy, 10 more Day Care Centres one each in Salem, Thiruvannamalai - Chennavaram

in Vandavasi Division; Dindigul, Virudhunagar, Thanjavur, Thoothukudi, Villupuram, Dharmapuri, Tiruchirappalli and Coimbatore Districts were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister at a total cost of Rs. 1.40 Crore. To maintain these centres, the Government has made provision for an annual grant of Rs. 1.25 Crore.

In the annual budget 2020-2021, it was announced that for the convenience of visually and hearing disabled persons, 10,000 smart phones with apps, totally costing Rs. 10 Crore, would be given to enable them to communicate with others. The Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated the distribution of smart phones with apps to visually and hearing disabled persons at the Secretariat by handing over the phones to the beneficiaries.

Every year, as part of Independence Day Celebrations, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu honours on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, the best charitable institution, best doctor, private firm which gives maximum employment to differently abled persons, to the District Central Cooperative Bank which has given the maximum loan to differently abled persons and to the best social worker serving the cause of differently abled persons.

District Collectors who best cared for Differently Abled

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** gave away awards to District Collectors who best served the differently abled. For the year 2018 the award was won by the then District Collector of Erode Dr.S.Prabhakar I.A.S., for the year 2019 by Thiru.J.Jayakanthan I.A.S., the then District Collector of Sivagangai District and for the year 2020, by the then District Collector of Thoothukudi, Thiru. Sandeep Nanduri I.A.S.

Hon'ble Chief Minister lays foundation stone for Rs. 265.87 Crore Government Veterinary college at Veerapandi

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami,** laid the foundation stone on behalf of the Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Department at the Secretariat, Chennai on 10.12.2020, for a new Government Veterinary College and Research Centre, to be constructed at a cost of Rs. 265.87 Crore, for the Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University through video conferencing at Veerapandi village in Theni Division in Theni District.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, on the floor of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 20.03.2020, made a statement under Rule 110 that a new Government Veterinary College would be opened in Veerapandi village in Theni Division in Theni District. As per the statement, the Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the

foundation stone for the new veterinary college to be constructed on 253.64 acres of land in Veerapandi village in Theni Division in Theni District at a cost of Rs.265. 87 Crore. The newly set up veterinary college and research centre will meet the medical needs of animals in Madurai, Virudhunagar and Dindigul Districts. As the college is to be on the Kerala border, it will be a big boon for the milk and mutton traders of that state also for processing animal products and marketing veterinary products. The college admitted 40 students from the current academic year 2020-2021.

The college will have a well-designed administrative building, 8 blocks with modern classrooms, separate hostels for girls and boys, canteens, quarters for Dean and Hostel Warden and guest house facilities. There will be 15 Departments, including technical processing units for milk and mutton, veterinary farm for explaining the technical aspects of manufacturing, a modern veterinary hospital to impart to veterinary college students the clinical treatment related to animals, and well-trained veterinary teachers.

Hon'ble Chief Minister renames farm excellence award to honour C.Narayanasamy Naidu

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** 21.12.2020. *(English Translation)*

Thiru. C.Narayanasamy Naidu was a great leader of farmers known for his speaking ability, activities and leadership qualities.

He started the Tamil Nadu Agriculturists Association in the year 1973 and as its leader, toured the entire State, met farmers, organized farmers conferences and strove for their rights. He died while taking rest after attending a farmers' meeting in Kovilpatti. His death anniversary falls on 21.12.2020.

To acknowledge and commemorate the excellent services rendered by Thiru. Narayanasamy Naidu to the farming community, the award for high yield of paddy by adopting System of Rice Intensification (SRI) which is given on Republic Day every year will hereafter be called on an Award for efficieney in paddy in the Name of 'Thiru. Narayanasamy Naidu' through SRI.

Additional facilities in four temples at a total cost of Rs.3.46 Crore

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** declared open at the Secretariat, Chennai on 07.12.2020, a resting mandapam, a modern hall for hair tonsuring and two Annadhana Koodam constructed in five different temples in Erode, Thiruvallur, Thanjavur, Tiruppur and Tiruchirappalli Districts and the first floor of the office building of the Joint Commissioner/Executive Officer of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department, located in Tiruchirapalli District – all at a cost of Rs.3.46 Crore.

Temples in Tamil Nadu are repositories of Tamil culture, spiritual values and artistic skills. Through the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department, the Government of Tamil Nadu that functions on the lines of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, is executing works like protecting and maintaining the assets of these temples, ensuring uninterrupted daily pooja in them and providing the required facilities to devotees.

The buildings declared open were: a hall for devotees to rest, measuring 2,944 sq.ft.

Annadhana Koodam, Thanjavur District

Annadhana Koodam, Tiruppur District

Modern hall for hair tonsuring, Tiruttani

Joint Commissioner/Executive Officer Office, Tiruchirappalli District

at Arulmigu Subramania Swamy temple at Chennimalai, Perundurai Taluk, Erode District (Rs.68.33 Lakh); a modern hall measuring 6,283 sq.ft. for hair tonsuring at Arulmigu Subramania Swamy temple, Tiruttani, Tiruttani Taluk, Thiruvallur District (Rs. 95 Lakh); a 2,605 sq.ft. Annadhana koodam at Arulmigu Mullaivananathaswami temple, Thirukarugavur, Papanasam Taluk, Thanjavur District (Rs. 52 Lakh) and an Annadhana koodam measuring 2,604 sq.ft. at a place belonging to Arulmigu Avinashi Lingeswarar temple, Avinashi Town and Taluk, Tiruppur District (Rs.65.75 Lakh). The 4,050 sq.ft. first floor of the office building of the Joint Commissioner/ Executive Officer, located at a place owned by Arulmigu Mariamman temple, Samayapuram, Manachanallur Taluk, Tiruchirapalli District, is constructed at a cost of Rs.65 Lakh. Hon'ble Chief Minister declared open all these constructions. ■

Attention of Hon'ble Prime Minister drawn to incidents against fishermen

Text of the D.O. letter dated 17.12.2020 of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami,** addressed to Hon'ble Prime Minister of India **Thiru. Narendra Modi.**

I write to bring to your kind attention two more incidents of apprehension of 36 Indian fishermen from Tamil Nadu belonging to Ramanathapuram and Thoothukudi Districts with five mechanised fishing boats by Sri Lankan Navy on 14.12.2020.

The Sri Lankan strategy of not releasing the boats of our fishermen is causing great frustration amongst the fishermen of Tamil Nadu.

I request your personal intervention and direction to the Ministry of External Affairs to urgently take up the issue with the highest authorities in Sri Lanka for the release of 36 Indian fishermen and 5 mechanised fishing boats currently in Sri Lankan custody. ■

Ariyalur District curbs Corona; keeps graph of welfare, developmental schemes up

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** at the review meeting on the progress of developmental schemes and anti-Corona activities in Ariyalur District, at the District Collectorate on 17.12.2020. *(English Translation)*

Bowing to Goddess Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma,

At the outset, my respects to all the participants in the consultative meeting over the Corona virus spread in Ariyalur District and the action taken on Government announced schemes.

The high rate of Corona virus infection spread in the initial stages in Ariyalur District has gradually come down and it is under control on account of the steps taken by the District Administration and Health Department in a proper manner on the suggestions given by the Government. Ariyalur District came under the sway of Corona virus infection for the first time when many persons from the District returned after visiting other places on business and as labourers and tested positive for the disease. Prompt tests and appropriate treatment for them brought under control and prevented further virus spread.

Till yesterday (16.12.2020), the number of persons affected by the virus infection in

Ariyalur District was 4,613; the number of persons cured was 4,554; the number of deaths was 48; on 16.12.2020 (yesterday) only one person was affected; the number of persons cured was 10; those under treatment is now 11; till 16.12.2020, the number of tests conducted was 95,066; yesterday alone 444 persons were subjected to tests. A testing centre has been set up in this District. There are enough hospitals and medical equipment to cure persons affected by the Corona virus infection in this District. There is enough stock of N95 and three-fold face masks, PPE kits, thermal scanners, RT-PCR kits and zinc and multi-vitamin tablets. Fever camps are being conducted on a daily basis in this District on the suggestion given in this regard for prevention of this infection spread. Yesterday, 25 fever camps were conducted. So far, 510 camps have been conducted and 2,81,099 persons have been tested. The joint action of the District administration and the Health Department in carrying out the procedures announced by Hon'ble Amma's Government, has brought down the infection spread to a great extent and it is under control.

To reverse the process of poor and vulnerable sections of people in urban and rural areas approaching the Government for solving their problems and to make the Government go to the people to help them, I announced in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly under Rule 110 that Chief Minister's Special Grievance Redressal camps would be conducted and they have been conducted all over Tamil Nadu in all Districts. Of the 30,422 petitions received through these camps in Ariyalur District, 20,053 eligible ones have been taken up for consideration. Of the total number of petitions received, 15,630 pertained to grant of pension and 7,838 name transfer in house-site pattas. After scrutiny, the District administration met the demands of the eligible ones. The target for distribution of house site pattas at no cost for the year 2019-2020 was fixed at 6,000 and so far 6,316 pattas have been distributed in this District.

Through the Public Works Department, 14 works were taken up in 2019-2020 – construction of 6 check dams and restoration of 8 lakes – at a cost of Rs.63.95 Crore and 13 works have been completed. The remaining one, construction of a check dam at Sundakudi village, is nearing completion. In 2019-2020, forty per cent of works of renovation of 19 lakes under the Tamil Nadu IAMWARM project (Integrated Agriculture Modernization and Water Bodies Restoration and Management) in Nandiyaru-Koozhaiyaru sub-basin in Ariyalur Taluk, Ariyalur District and those of channels and inlet channels running to 55 km, all at a cost of Rs.15.72 Crore have been completed. Steps are being taken to complete the remaining works speedily. The Karaivetti Birds Sanctuary in Thirumanur Panchayat Union in Ariyalur District was improved in 2019-2020, and dredging and rejuvenating the lake housing the sanctuary is now going on at an estimate of Rs.5 Crore. A fourth of this work has been completed and steps have been taken to expedite the remaining work. The Government is examining the feasibility of constructing a bridge across Marudaiyaru in Thavuthaikulam village,

Ariyalur Taluk at a cost of Rs.3.75 Crore. Also under Government's consideration is the construction of an anicut across Arungal Odai at an estimate of Rs. 2 Crore to supply water to Vaippam tank in Sambandankudi village in Ariyalur Taluk.

A building with a bed strength of 200 and an operation theatre has been additionally constructed in the Ariyalur District headquarters hospital complex at a cost of Rs.6.16 Crore and made operational. Buildings for veterinary dispensaries at Meensurutti, T.Pazhoor and Vikkiramangalam have been constructed at a cost of Rs.1.04 Crore. Construction of buildings for the Ariyalur Government Medical College and Hospital, sanctioned in deference to the consistent demands of the Chief Government Whip, Hon'ble MLAs and the people of the District, is going on at an estimate of Rs.347 Crore.

In Jayamkondam, construction of an integrated court building at an estimate of Rs.20.88 Crore and a gynecology and obstetrics ward in the Government hospital there under the National Health Scheme at an estimate of Rs.18 Crore, is going on.

As for Highways Department, a railway over bridge has been constructed at an estimate of Rs.31.23 Crore in Ariyalur Town and thrown open to public; two over-bridges are under construction in between the Sillakudi and Kallagam Railway Stations at an estimate of Rs.41.66 Crore to connect Kottaikadu in Ariyalur District and Pennadam in Cuddalore District; the Government is considering proposals to construct a over-bridge across Marudaiyaru between Vaipur and Muthuvancheri at a cost of Rs.38.20 Crore; an estimate for constructing a high rise bridge on the road from Keezhapazhur-Poondi to Ayansuthamalli at the point 2/6 km at a cost of Rs.4.23 Crore has been prepared and is under Government's consideration; a detailed project report is being prepared for setting up a by-pass road to Ariyalur town on the western side; widening of NH-227 to a length of 59 km into a 4-lane road from Kallagam gate to Melakaruppur and a two-lane road from Melakaruppur to Meensurutti at an estimate of Rs.1,265 Crore under the Bharatmala Pariyojana scheme is going on.

Under the National Highways Development Project, widening of NH 45C into a four-lane traffic road to a length of 50 km at a cost of Rs.1,460 Crore is in progress. Work on widening and developing a stretch of 12.40 km road from Ariyalur to V.Kaikatti at an estimate of Rs.200 Crore under the World Bank additional financial assistance scheme, is to commence shortly through the Tiruchirappalli Division,

Tamil Nadu Road Development Company Project – II.

In the agriculture sector, Micro Irrigation Scheme has been installed in 50,820 acres of land in 4 years at a subsidy of Rs.70.14 Crore. For this scheme, Rs.35.85 Crore has been allotted for Ariyalur District for the year 2020-2021. Under the crop insurance scheme, a compensation of Rs.60.60 Crore has been distributed to 80,475 farmers out of 1,18,531 registered persons in the last four years. In the severe drought of 2016-2017, Hon'ble Amma's Government, acceding to the demand of farmers, gave Rs.20.47 Crore to 49,481 farmers as State Disaster Response fund.

When the fall armyworm pest attacked the maize crop in 2018-2019, a compensation of Rs.8.54 Crore was disbursed in Ariyalur alone to 16,640 affected farmers. To control this pest in 2019-2020, Government sprayed insecticide and in Ariyalur District alone, an expenditure of Rs.2.03 Crore was incurred to spray insecticide in 5,820 hectares. Through the sustained rain fed agriculture mission, many works were implemented in 62,500 acres at a cost of Rs.16.48 Crore and 37,980 farmers benefited. This scheme will be taken up in 30,000 acres at an estimate of Rs.5.74 Crore in 2020-2021.

Steps are being taken to set up a Food Park at Keezhapazhur in Thirumanur Taluk to achieve excellence in vegetable and fruit processing and to benefit farmers, food processors and exporters. Under Rural Development Scheme, dredging works were completed in 98 minor irrigation lakes at a cost of Rs.4.82 Crore and in 693 tanks and Ooranis at an estimate of Rs.6.76 Crore. Houses under the Chief Minister's Green Houses have been constructed; under the Prime Minister Housing Scheme, construction of 11,931 houses was started in Ariyalur District between the years 2016-2017 to 2019-2020 and so far construction of 5,841 houses has been completed; steps will be taken to expedite the construction of the remaining houses. From 2017-2018 to 2019-2020, the Local Administration Department took up 557 road development works to a length of 698 km on an allocation of Rs.183.54 Crore and 269 road works have been completed; the rest of the works are progressing fast.

Under the Jal Jeevan Mission Scheme to provide water supply connections to rural people, works to provide pipe connection, in the first phase, to 60,309 houses in 397 hamlets in 95 panchayats at an estimate of Rs.45.47 Crore, have started and the works are in progress. The Ariyalur Municipality underground drainage scheme, completed at a cost of Rs.30.93 Crore is put for public use from

28.05.2020. Work on replacing the old water main with a new one to convey protected water from Thirumanur Head Pumping Station to Ariyalur Municipality at an estimate of Rs.15.18 Crore is in progress. The Government has issued a G.O. for setting up storm water drainage within Ariyalur Municipality under the Integrated Urban Development Mission, at an estimate of Rs.8.42 Crore in 2020-2021 and works on it are to start shortly.

There are 4,872 women Self Help Groups (SHG) in Ariyalur District with a membership of 61,340. Collateral bank loan to the extent of Rs.324.12 Crore is given to them through Hon'ble Amma's Government. For the year 2019-2020, a target of Rs.215 Crore was fixed for loan assistance to the SHGs in Ariyalur District and so far Rs.50.25 Crore bank loan has been disbursed to 1,638 women SHGs . In the election manifesto, Hon'ble Amma announced that two wheelers would be given to working women. On that basis, Hon'ble Amma's Government has given two wheelers at subsidized rates to 2,434 women in the last 3 years. The subsidy input for this is Rs.5.98 Crore. For the year 2019-2020, the distribution was fixed for 1,088 persons and so far, the vehicles have been given to 258 persons and the subsidy amount is Rs. 64.50 Lakh.

For the industrial sector, Rs. 27.91 Crore loan has been sanctioned under the Central Government's collateral-free MSME loans to 2,423 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in Ariyalur District.

An industrial estate has been set up in 25.34 acres in Mallur village. In the first phase, 26 industrial plots in 5.51 acres have been developed in this estate and two plots have been allotted. The Tamil Nadu Cement Corporation Limited has been expanded on request at an estimate of Rs.850 Crore and is functioning.

We have distributed milch cows, goats and sheep to people at no cost. Poultry is distributed at no cost to people under the Rural Backyard Poultry Development Scheme. Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and Affordable Housing Schemes, construction of 288 apartments has been completed through the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board at an estimate of Rs.23.43 Crore at Kurumbanchavadi scheme areas in Eruthukaranpatti Panchayat, Ariyalur Taluk. Construction of 576 apartments is going on in Keezhapazhuvur scheme areas, Keezhapazhuvur village, Ariyalur Taluk at an estimate of Rs.48.98 Crore. Under the Beneficiary-Led Individual House Construction or Enhancement (BLC) Scheme, house construction works are in progress at an estimate of Rs.26.70 Crore for 890 beneficiaries at Ariyalur, Jayamkondam and Varadarajanpettai areas. Of the above works, 518 works have been completed.

In the last 3 years, the School Education Department has upgraded 7 middle-level schools into high schools and 5 high schools into higher secondary schools. In the higher education sector, the Government is taking steps to set up a Government arts and science college at Jayamkondam.

Many schemes like these are being implemented in Ariyalur District. I wish to inform you that Hon'ble Amma's Government is to implement more such schemes. Nandri! Vanakkam!

Development works in Ariyalur District

Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** declared open 39 completed scheme works valued at Rs. 36.73 Crore and laid foundation stones for 14 new scheme works to be executed at an estimate of Rs. 26.52 Crore, at a function held in District Collectorate, Ariyalur on 17.12.2020.

Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** distributed Government welfare assistance to beneficiaries at a function held at District Collectorate, Ariyalur on 17.12.2020. Chief Government Whip Thiru. S. Rajendran, MLAs, District Collector Tmt. D. Rathna I.A.S., and other high Government officials were present on the occasion.

Puratchi Thalaivar shows the way

The blessed journey of Puratchi Thalaivar continues incessantly. The life-giving Mantra of 'M.G.R', the ideals of that immortal hero of history continue to give us leadership and show us the way.

Numberless are the achievements of Puratchi Thalaivar in the world of cinema. Even more numerous are his achievements in politics.

India has seen innumerable political leaders. But very few are the great men who combine intellectual acumen with a compassionate heart. Among such great men, Mahatma Gandhi, Arignar Anna and our Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivar stand foremost.

Even among them, our Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivar shines as the peak of human compassion. It is because of this that even today the world regards him as one in a thousand, a rare gem.

Our eyes grow moist in sadness even today when we think that the man who fed a million people did not have a handful of cooked rice to ward away his own hunger in his youth.

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Perarignar Anna said that the money the people pay as taxes must be used only for the welfare of the people.

"The benefits of various schemes must reach the people for whom they are intended," said Puratchi Thalaivar.

Everyday, all the schemes we implement are consonant with the Kural which gives us the vision of the ideal state that is free from hunger, disease and the danger posed by enemies. All our thoughts and deeds are hitched to the aim of making Puratchi Thalaivar's dream of a golden reign a reality.

It is not that Puratchi Thalaivar emerged victorious over his political adversaries only. He vanquished disease, he made death turn back, he defeated his political foes, he conquered the scourge of hunger.

We have made it known to the world that we are the great heirs of that triumphant champion; that we are the flowers that have bloomed in the heart of that illustrious Puratchi Thalaivar.

We will drive away from our dear Tamil Nadu the darkness of poverty, the blot of privation, the curse of ignorance, the blight of penury for ever. We are aliens to the culture of violence. If our political foes and our neighbouring states use it against us, we will face it with discipline.

We have the confidence that our forces are bound to win. We always have the blessings and grace of Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivar. We have the conviction that he lives, and that he lives with us.

Making a reservoir of that feeling in our heart, let us continue our sacred journey. To protect the name and fame of that valiant hero of history, let us blow the conch of victory. Let us take the pledge this day, that we will nurture a prosperous and plentiful Tamil Nadu and that we will protect the Tamil race!

(From the speech of the Puratchi Thalaivi J Jayalalithaa, delivered on 17.01.1992, on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G.R. (English Translation)).

Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurates work for water supply scheme for Cuddalore District

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami,** at the Secretariat on 21.12.2020, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board functioning under the Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department, laid the foundation stone through video conferencing for a Combined Water Supply Scheme, with Neyveli Mines Water as the source, for Thittakudi, Pennadam, Mangalampettai, Vadalur, Kurinjipadi and Gangaikondan Town Panchayats and for 625 rural habitations in Mangalur, Nallur and Virudhachalam Panchayat Unions in Cuddalore District worth Rs. 479 Crore. On the occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister also declared open completed schemes worth Rs. 89.22 Crore and laid the foundation for Water Supply Improvement Schemes worth Rs. 9.54 Crore.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister at the M.G.R. Centenary Celebrations in Cuddalore on 16.08.2017 had said that for Municipalities, Town Panchayats, and wayside hamlets in Cuddalore District, a Combined Water Supply Scheme of 100 million litre capacity through desalination of sea water will be implemented.

As a follow up of the announcement, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board, the Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for the Rs. 479 Crore Combined Water Supply Scheme with source from the Neyveli Mine Water through video conferencing, for Thittakudi, Pennadam, Mangalampettai, Vadalur, Kurinjipadi and Gangaikondan Town Panchayats and 625 rural habitations in Mangalur, Nallur and

Virudhachalam Panchayat Unions in Cuddalore District. The Scheme when completed will benefit about 5.58 Lakh people.

In addition, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board, from the allotted water for Natham Combined Water Supply, a Combined Water Supply Scheme for 53 rural habitations under Gujiliamparai Panchayat Union in Dindigul District, at a cost of Rs. 20.34 Crore;

On behalf of the Municipal Administration Department, under the AMRUT Water Supply improvement Scheme, water supply for Kumbakonam Municipality, at a cost of Rs. 59. 93 Crore;

From the Integrated Urban Development Improvement Fund, treatment plants at Dharapuram Municipality in Tiruppur District at a cost of Rs.2.98 Crore, at Kangeyam Municipality at a cost of Rs. 2 Crore and at Sengottai Municipality at a cost of Rs. 2.60 Crore;

Under the Smart City Mission, additional buildings with ground floor and first floor for special accommodation at the Tondiarpet Communicable Diseases Hospital in Greater Chennai Corporation at a cost of Rs. 69.70 Lakh and additional building at Urban Primary Health Centre, Mirsahibpet in Triplicane at a cost of Rs. 67 Lakh.

Totally schemes, completed at a total cost of Rs. 89.22 Crore, were inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on behalf of the Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department.

On behalf of the Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board, the Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for a Water Supply Improvement Scheme to be implemented at a cost of Rs. 9.54 Crore for the Thenkarai Town Panchayat in Theni District.

After the Government of Tamil Nadu issued an order for an internal allotment of 7.5 per cent to students of Government High Schools who passed NEET Examination, 11 students of Chennai Corporation Schools were selected for medical education. These students met the Hon'ble Chief Minister to thank him for making their medical study dream a reality. The Hon'ble Chief Minister congratulated the students and handed over doctor coats and stethoscopes to them. ■

Hon'ble Chief Minister opens godowns to increase food grains storage capacity

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami,** at the Secretariat, Chennai on 21.12.2020, on behalf of the Co-operation, Food, and Consumer Protection Department, declared open through video conferencing, a modern godown of 25,000 metric tonne capacity at Kudavasal in Kudavasal Division in Thiruvarur District, constructed at a cost of Rs.46 Crore. In addition, the Hon'ble Chief Minister also declared open godowns, additional floors for the office of the Tamil Nadu State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission and Co-operative bank branch buildings, all constructed at a cost of Rs. 21.49 Crore.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, on the floor of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 06.05.2013, made a statement under Rule 110 that the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation will construct 47 more godowns of total capacity 4,33,500 tonnes to store more food grains.

As part of implementing the statement, in Thiruvarur District a new godown with a capacity of 25,000 metric tonnes, built at a cost of Rs.46 Crore, was declared open at Kudavasal in Kudavasal Union by the Hon'ble Chief Minister from the Secretariat through video conferencing.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister on the floor of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 19.06.2017 made a statement under Rule 110 that the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation will construct additional godowns of total capacity 30,000 metric tones in 14 own places of the Corporation in 9 Districts, at a total cost of Rs. 50 Crore.

As per the announcement, at Panjetti village in Gummudipoondi Division in Thiruvallur District a godown with a capacity of 750 metric tonnes at a cost of Rs. 1.05 Crore; two godowns with a capacity of 750 metric tonnes each at Pakkam village in Gudiyatham Division in Vellore District; 2 godowns of 1,500 metric tonnes each at Gugainallur colony in Katpadi Division in Vellore District, at a total cost of Rs. 4.95 Crore; in Kunichi village in Thirupattur Division in Thirupattur District, 2 godowns of 1,000 metric tonnes each at a cost of Rs. 3.3 Crore and in Kadampuliyur in Panruti Division in Cuddalore District, one Godown of 1,500 metric tonnes capacity at a cost of Rs. 2.50 Crore and in Kanakku Pillai Valasai in Sengottai Division in Tenkasi District, 3 godowns of 1,000 metric tonnes capacity each at a total cost of Rs. 4.10 Crore.

On behalf of the Co-operative Department, bank building for the Bhuvanagiri branch of the Cuddalore District Co-operative Bank at a cost of Rs. 67 Lakh and for the Ondipudur branch of the Coimbatore District Central Co-operative Bank, at a cost of Rs. 50 Lakh.

Both the Chennai (North) and Chennai (South) branches of the State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission are functioning in the same building in Park Town in Chennai District. The functioning of both the branches at the same building is causing a lot of inconvenience to the employees, advocates and the general public. To solve the space constraint, additional constructions in the third and fourth floors on a 6,024.60 sq.ft. at a cost of Rs. 1.92 Crore have been constructed.

Totally buildings, constructed at a total cost of Rs. 67.49 Crore were declared open by the Hon’ble Chief Minister on behalf of the Co-operation, Food and Consumer Protection Department.

Also on the occasion, the Hon’ble Chief Minister, as a token of handing over appointment orders to the eligible legal heirs of 13 employees of the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation who died while in service, gave away appointment orders to 5 beneficiaries.

As a token of handing over appointment orders to 10 Engineers in the Modern Rice Mills and 7 Assistant Managers in the Quality Control Division, the Hon’ble Chief Minister gave away appointment orders to 5 selected candidates. ■

Accommodation for pilgrims at Suyambhu Saniswarar temple in Theni District

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami,** at the Secretariat, Chennai on 21.12.2020, on behalf of the Tourism Department, declared open a yatri nivas for devotees of Arulmigu Suyambhu Saniswarar temple at Kuchanur Town Panchayat in Uthamapalayam Division in Theni District, built at a cost of Rs. 95 Lakh. On the occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister also declared open a newly laid floor and cement paver block on the banks of Surabhi River near the Suyambhu Saniswarar Temple, at a cost of Rs. 23 Lakh.

Tourism provides mental happiness, provides employment opportunities and earns foreign exchange to the Country. Hon'ble Amma's Government has been taking steps to improve facilities at pilgrim centres and provide more amenities to attract more pilgrims. As part of these efforts, the Hon'ble Chief Minister declared open the staying hotels for pilgrims to Arulmigu Suyambhu Saniswarar Temple at Kuchanur town Panchayat in Uthamapalayam Division in Theni Division. The new building with ground and first floor has been built on 6,900 sq.ft. at a cost of Rs. 95 Lakh. On the occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister also inaugurated a new floor and cement paver block structure on 176 sq.ft. on the banks of the Surabhi river, at a cost of Rs. 23 Lakh. ■

Youth from juvenile homes to be provided training, placement

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami,** at the Secretariat, Chennai on 21.12.2020, on behalf of the Social Defence Department, distributed to 7 students who studied from children's homes run by the Government and NGOs, admission letters to pursue 6 months training in 'General Purpose Ratings Residential Course' under 'Maritime Foundation Charitable Trust' and 'Hindustan Institute of Maritime Training', and guarantee letters for appointment in private shipping companies after training.

Seven students, who stayed in Government and NGO run homes, functioning under the Department of Social Defence and returned home or to other juvenile homes after completing 10th and 12th examinations, have been selected for 6 month General Purpose Ratings Residential Course based on their educational qualification, physical condition and social and economic status. The Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over the admission letters to the students –Thiru. R.Rajasekar, Thiru.K.Karthick, Thiru. R.Sakthivel, Thiru. S.Sarath, Thiru. S. Vincent Williaraj, Thiru. A.Karthick and Thiru.M.Krishnan. The selected candidates will undergo training through 'Maritime Foundation Charitable Trust' and 'Hindustan Institute of Maritime Training'. Apart from concession in admission fees provided by the institutions, the Government will bear the remaining Rs. 7 Lakh from the Tamil Nadu Juvenile Justice Fund.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also handed over the placement letters to these students on behalf of 5 private shipping companies, namely Apeejay Shipping Limited, Seven Islands Shipping Ltd., Omicron marine Private Ltd., Transworld Ship Management Pvt. Ltd. and ABS Marine Services Pvt. Ltd.

Through this measure, the youth will get opportunities for proper training and jobs in shipping companies and come up in their lives.■

Foundation stone laid for Rs. 119 Crore Tenkasi District Collectorate building

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami,** at the Secretariat, Chennai on 11.12.2020, laid the foundation stone on behalf of the Revenue and Disaster Management Department, for the Tenkasi District Collectorate building, to be constructed at a cost of Rs. 119 Crore, in Tenkasi Division in Tenkasi District, through video conferencing.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister made a statement under Rule 110 on the floor of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 18.07.2019, that following the demands from the local Ministers, MLAs and people, it has been decided to bifurcate the present Tirunelveli District, which is considered to be large and form a new District with Tenkasi as headquarters.

Proposed Collectorate Building,Tenkasi

As per the announcement, Tenkasi District was formed as the 33rd District of the State and the same was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 22.11.2019. For the new District, the Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation through video conferencing. The new Collectorate will be a six floor building on a 28,995 sq.metre area, to be built at a cost of Rs. 119 Crore.

The new Collectorate complex will have District Revenue Office, District Treasury, Small Savings office, Women's Planning (Mahalir Thittam) office, ELCOT office, seminar hall, office of the Assistant Director of Survey, Disaster Management room, District Employment office, District Rural Development Agency, District Backward

Classes and Minorities Department office, Co-operation Department office, Registration Department office, Agriculture Department office, Animal Husbandry Department office, Health Department office, Forests Department Office, Chief Education Officer's office, and District Primary Education office, Adi Dravidar and Tribal welfare Department, Tamil Development Department and other Government office buildings.

Commission constituted to submit report after collecting current caste-wise data

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** on 07.12.2020. *(English Translation)*

Hon'ble Amma's Government issued an order on 01.12.2020 for setting up a special commission to submit a report 'after finalizing the methods of collecting comprehensive, quantifiable caste-wise population data as they obtain now' and 'to collect the data on that basis'.

This order was issued on the basis of demands made by various political parties and social organizations in Tamil Nadu at different periods of time and to ensure that the benefits of the many Government welfare measures reach all sections of the society as well as to obtain the necessary data to face the cases connected with 69 per cent reservation pending in the Supreme Court.

In continuation of this order, I wish to inform the people that a commission headed by retired high court judge Justice A.Kulasekaran has been set up for submitting a report to the Government. The Commission comes into effect immediately and it will start its work soon.

I wish to state that this Government which functions on the footsteps of 'the heroic protector of social justice' (Samooha Neethi Kaatha Veeranganai) Hon'ble Amma, will continue to take all steps to establish social justice.

Beneficiaries from Pudukkottai, Nagapattinam, Ramanathapuram Districts

Hon'ble Chief Minister hands over deep sea vessels to fishermen

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami,** at the Secretariat, Chennai on 10.12.2020, on behalf of the Fisheries Department, under the flagship scheme of diversification of trawlers in Palk Bay region to deep sea fishing, flagged off through video conferencing, 15 deep sea fishing boats for the use of fishermen beneficiaries of Pudukkottai, Nagapattinam and Ramanathapuram Districts. As a token of distribution, Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over eight deep sea fishing boat of Sicagen Boat Building centre and handed over registration certificates and keys to Seven fishermen beneficiaries on the occasion.

To ensure and improve the livelihood of Palk Bay region fishermen, about 2,000 trawler fishing boats in Palk Bay are to be replaced with deep sea fishing boats with the participation of both the Central and the State Governments. In the first phase, during 2017-2018, the State Government gave administrative sanction for replacement of 500 trawler fishing boats into deep sea fishing vessels and sanctioned Rs.286 Crore with the participation of the Central Government. The scheme is implemented with the unit cost of Rs. 80 Lakh per boat being borne through 50 per cent assistance from the Government of India, 20 per cent by the Government of Tamil Nadu, 10 per cent by the beneficiary fishermen and the balance from institutional financing. For this scheme, a tripartite agreement was signed among fishing boat building units, Fisheries Department and the beneficiary fishermen. In this connection, work orders have been issued for replacing 95 trawlers by Tuna long-lining and gill-netting deep sea fishing vessels. So far, 24 deep sea fishing boats have been completed and the work is going on for 45 more such vessels.

In this scheme of things, from Nagapattinam, Puducherry and Thoothukudi boat building

yards at a cost of Rs. 12 Crore, 15 completed deep fishing boats of Puducherry Sicagen Boat Building yard, were flagged off for the use of fishermen of Pudukkottai, Nagapattinam and Ramanathapuram Districts by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu through video conferencing. In addition, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over at the Secretariat, the keys and registration certificates to seven fishermen beneficiaries.

Based on the last three years performance, the Hyderabad-based National Fisheries Development Board submitted a report to the Central Government that the Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation is the best Government Fisheries Corporation. Based on the report, the Central Government selected the Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation limited as the Best Sea Resources Government Organization/ Agency/ Corporation/ Board Corporation and on World Fisheries Day on 21.11.2020, the Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Thiru. Pratap Chandra Sarangi, handed over the National Award to Hon'ble Minister for Fisheries Thiru.D.Jayakumar. The Hon'ble Minister showed the award to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, who congratulated the Corporation for its performance. ■

Amendment to Marriages Act

Announcement to the general public regarding Amendment in Section 5(1) of the Tamil Nadu Registration of Marriages Act, 2009

As per section 5(1) of the Tamil Nadu Registration of Marriages Act, 2009 registration of the marriage can be done only in the Sub Registrar Office within whose jurisdiction the marriage was solemnized. To ease the current procedure

Hon'ble Minister, during the Registration Demand for the year 2020-2021, announced that necessary amendment shall be made in the Tamil Nadu Registration of Marriages Act, 2009, enabling registration of marriages in the Sub Registrar Office within whose jurisdiction either or both the parties to the marriage have their permanent place of residence.

To implement the above announcement, necessary amendment has been made in the Tamil Nadu Registration of Marriages Act, 2009 section 5(1) vide Tamil Nadu Registration of Marriages (Amendment) Act, 2020 (Tamil Nadu Act 33 of 2020) as follows:

"In Section 5 of the Tamil Nadu Registration of Marriages Act, 2009, in sub-section(1), after the expression "where the marriage is performed", the expression "or within whose jurisdiction either or both parties to the marriage have their permanent place of residence" shall be inserted.

Members of the general public are requested to make use of the above mentioned facility. ■

Heartfelt thanks of economically poor students for medical seats under 7.5 per cent sub-quota

Thirteen Government School Students who got medical seats through the 7.5 per cent sub-quota thanked Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** on 22.12.2020.

Thiru. M.K. Abdul Rahman, a Government School Student of Kanniyakumari District who got a seat to study medicine through the 7.5 per cent sub-quota, made a thanks giving speech:

'My name is Abdul Rahman. My mother is my single parent. Our family members live by casual labour. I studied in Thuckalay Government Higher Secondary School and scored 1,047 marks in the 12th standard public examination; I got 377 marks in the NEET examination. I had a doubt whether I would get a seat in a medical college. As a result of the 7.5 per cent preferential allotment of seats provided by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Ayya to benefit poor students studying in Government Schools, I got a seat in the Stanley Medical College, Chennai. I thank the Hon'ble Chief Minister Ayya for creating a preferential allotment so as to enable students like me, who are not in a financial position to become a doctor, to become doctors and for helping poor students of Government schools to get seats in medical colleges. From Kanniyakumari District, 13 students – boys and girls – have joined medical college. Like this, the opportunity to join medical college has been created for many students from all Districts by Hon'ble Chief Minister Ayya. On my own behalf and on behalf of all students from our District who got medical seats, I thank Hon'ble Chief Minister Ayya in abundance and the Tamil Nadu Government also for supporting us so that we can study medicine''.

January 23. Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose birth anniversary

An inspiring leader of the freedom struggle

Born in Cuttack, Orissa (now Odisha) in 1897, Subhas Chandra Bose was a revolutionary Indian leader who fought for Independence from British rule in India. He also led an Indian national force from abroad against the Western powers during World War II. He was at times an ally of Gandhiji and at other times an adversary. Netaji was known for his militant approach to the freedom struggle and for his socialist policies. Many Tamils were part of Netaji's Indian National Army and Tamil women dominated INA's Rani Jhansi regiment. Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar was Netaji's close confidante.

Here are excerpts from a speech Netaji made to a rally of Indians in Burma on July 44:

Friends! Twelve months ago a new programme of 'total mobilization' or 'maximum sacrifice' was placed before Indians in East Asia. Today I shall give you an account of our achievements during the past year and shall place before you our demands for the coming year. But, before I do so, I want you to realize once again what a golden opportunity we have for winning freedom. The British are engaged in a worldwide struggle and in the course of this struggle they have suffered defeat after defeat on so many fronts. The enemy having been thus considerably weakened, our fight for liberty has become very much easier than it was five years ago. Such a rare and God-given opportunity comes once in a century. That is why we have sworn to fully utilize this opportunity for liberating our motherland from the British yoke.

I am so very hopeful and optimistic about the outcome of our struggle, because I do not rely merely on the efforts of three million Indians in East Asia. There is a gigantic movement going on inside India and millions of our countrymen are prepared for maximum suffering and sacrifice in order to achieve liberty.

Hon'ble Chief Minister lays foundation stones for ambitious IT parks at Coimbatore and Tiruchirappalli

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi. K.Palaniswami**, at the Secretariat, Chennai on 11.12.2020, on behalf of the Electronics Corporation of Tamil Nadu Ltd., under the Information Technology Department, laid the foundation stone through video conferencing, for the IT Park building for software companies at the Vilankurichi Special Economic Zone area in Coimbatore District, at a cost of Rs.114.16 Crore. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also laid the foundation stone for the IT Park building to be constructed for software companies at a cost of Rs.48.10 Crore at the Navalur Special Economic Zone area in Tiruchirapalli.

For the development and growth of Information Technology-based industries in the State, the Tamil Nadu Government has set up through ELCOT, six IT-based Special Economic Zones in Coimbatore, Madurai, Tiruchirapalli, Salem, Tirunelveli and Hosur (ELCOSEZ).

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu made a statement on the floor of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly under Rule 110 on 01.06.2018, that two IT buildings would be constructed to enable entrepreneurs to start IT-based industries: one in Coimbatore District at the ELCOSEZ at Vilankurichi on a 2.5 Lakh sq.ft. area, and the second in Tiruchirapalli on One lakh sq. ft. area.

As per the announcement, the Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for an IT building on a 2.66 Lakh sq.ft. area, at a cost of Rs. 114.16 Lakh, on behalf of ELCOT, in Vilankurichi in Coimbatore District.

The building to be constructed in Coimbatore will be given on a rental basis with necessary infrastructure to software companies. When the IT Park is completed it will provide direct employment to 20,000 people and indirect employment to 40,000. This park will be an important centre for Coimbatore.

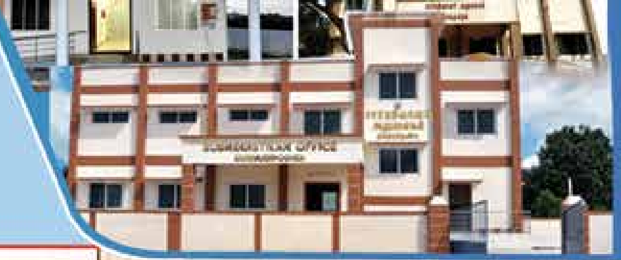
On behalf of ELCOT, the Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for an IT Park on a 1.60 Lakh sq.ft. area at a cost of Rs.48.10 Crore in the Navalpattu Special Economic Zone in Tiruchirapalli District. This park will be given on a rental basis with necessary infrastructure to software companies.

Hon'ble Chief Minister hands over bicycles to 9 students; 5,45,166 students benefit from Rs.214.79 Crore scheme

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami**, at the Secretariat, Chennai on 10.12.2020, formally inaugurated distribution of 5,45,166 bicycles worth Rs.214.79 Crore, at no cost to students of 11th Standard of Government schools and Government-aided and partly Government-aided schools. As a token of inaugurating the scheme, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over 9 bicycles to students.

To encourage women's education, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma introduced distribution of bicycles at no cost to SC/ST girl students of 11th Standard from the year 2001-2002 . Then, from the academic year 2005-2006 the free bicycle scheme was extended to all boy and girl students of 11th standard in Government schools and Government-aided and partly Government-aided schools.

Following the path of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, the present Government is implementing in an excellent manner, the scheme of distribution of bicycles at no cost to all 11th standard school students for the current academic year 2020-2021. This year, 5,45, 166 students including 2,38,456 boys and 3,06,710 girls will benefit under the scheme. The Hon'ble Chief Minister formally inaugurated the scheme by handing over bicycles to 9 beneficiaries at a function at the Secretariat on 10.12.2020.



Manapparai gets commercial taxes building at Rs. 84 Lakh

Buildings for sub registrar offices opened at Gummudipoondi and Red Hills

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** declared open on behalf of the Department of Commercial Taxes and Registration at the Secretariat, Chennai on 07.12.2020, sub registrar office buildings at Gummudipoondi and Red Hills in the North Chennai Registration District, constructed at a cost of Rs.1.88 Crore and another building for state tax office at Manapparai in Tiruchirapalli Commercial Taxes Division, constructed at a cost of Rs.84 Lakh.

In his statement made Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly under Rule 110 on 03.07.2018, the Hon'ble Chief Minister stated that Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma and the Government functioning in her footsteps have implemented many schemes for the growth and development of the Department of Commercial Taxes and Registration, which is a pillar supporting Tamil Nadu on the path of progress. On this basis, office buildings with modern facilities are to be constructed for 10 sub-registrar offices, functioning at present in rented buildings, he said.

In line with this announcement, office buildings at Gummudipoondi and Red Hills were constructed, each at a cost of Rs.94 Lakh. The building at Manapparai (Rs.84 Lakh) was constructed to fulfil the statement made by the Tamil Government in the discussion for demands for grants for the Department of Commercial Taxes and Registration for the year 2018-2019 that it was the Government's aim to construct buildings with all facilities for commercial tax offices visited by traders.

Hon'ble Chief Minister also made a token presentation of appointment orders to 7 legal heirs of employees of the Registration Department who had died while in service, to mark the appointment of 14 such employees on compassionate grounds.

Hon'ble Chief Minister honours persons serving the cause of differently abled

Every year December 3 is celebrated as International Day of Persons with Disabilities. In this connection, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami,** at the Secretariat, Chennai on 21.12.2020, honoured 35 persons who have rendered commendable services for the cause of the Differently abled for the year 2019 and 2020.

Every year, the best organization, social workers, best teachers, best employees/ self-employed, organizations which employ more number of Differently abled persons, best teachers working in basic-level training centres, and drivers and conductors selected are honoured by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

For the year 2019, Hope Public Charitable Trust, Chennai, Mithra Rehabilitation Centre and Atria Convergence Technology Ltd, Chennai, were selected as the Best Organizations for serving the differently-abled persons; Best Social Worker Awards : Sister Maria Preethika, Thiru. L.Manikandan, and Ln. Dr.Love O.A.K. Nagarajan; Best Teacher Awards: Tmt. I. Rita Elizabeth Christiana, Thiru. R.Naganathan and Tmt. R.Maria Jesse; Best Employee/ self employed: Thiru. N.Prabhu, Dr.M. Karthikeyan, Thiru. V. Radhakrishnan and Tmt. Sudha Srinivasan, Selvi Sravanthi Sudhakar and Thiru. S. Jagadeesh; Organizations which have employed more number of Differently-abled; BHEL, Ranipet

and Best Teachers at the Primary level Training Centre : Tmt.Karpagam and Tmt. V. Delicra Jesse; Best Driver and Conductor, who best served for the Differently-abed persons: Thiru. T.Chandramohan and Thiru. G.Moorthi.

For the year 2020, the Best Institution Award was given to Tiruchirappalli Multi-Purpose Social Service Society. Best Social Service Worker: Tmt. M. B. Sridevi of Melmaruvathur Adhi Parasakthi Annai Illam; Best Teacher: Thiru. J.Manjunathan, Thiru. S.Raja and Dr. C. Dhanalakshmi; Best Employee / Self-employed: Thiru. S.Rajasekar, Thiru. M.Dennis, Thiru. G.Suradha, Thiru. D.Kennedy, and D.Madhan; Organizations which employ more number of Differently-disabled Persons: Worth Welfare Trust, Vellore; Best Teachers at the Primary level Training Centre : Selvi. S.Jayamala and Tmt.R.Ramajayam; Best Driver and Conductor, who served the Differently abled: Thiru. R.Manavalan and Thiru. S.Murugan.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister honoured the above persons by presenting Commendation Certificates and 10 gm gold medals.

News in picture

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** reviewed at the Secretariat on 28.12.2020 with all District Collectors through video conferencing, the safety and control measures taken consecutively by various Departments to prevent Corona virus from spreading in the State. Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister Thiru. O. Panneerselvam, Hon'ble Ministers, Chief Secretary to Government Thiru. K.Shanmugam I.A.S., Director General of Police Thiru. J.K. Tripathy IPS and other high Government officials participated.

Karur District does good work quelling Corona, progresses in welfare and growth schemes

Speech delivered by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tami Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami**, at the review meeting on the progress of developmental schemes and anti-Corona activities in Karur District at the District Collectorate on 16.12.2020. (English Translation)

Bowing to Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma,

I welcome at the outset, all those who have come here to participate in the advisory meeting to review the progress of various welfare schemes and the anti-Corona activities in the District.

Due to tough measures taken by Hon'ble Amma's Government, Corona virus infections in the District have come down gradually. The mortality rate due to Corona infections is comparatively less when compared to other States in the country.

The number of those affected by the disease in the District was 4,999. Of them, 4,853 were cured and 49 died. On 15.12.2020 alone, 5 persons were affected by the disease and 20

persons were cured. At present, 88 persons are under treatment. Till 15.12.2020, 1,10,401 persons have been tested for the virus . On 15.12.2020 alone, RT-PCR test was conducted on 1,269 persons. A laboratory has been set up in the District. Sufficient medicines, hospitals, beds and oxygen stock are available in the District for treating affected persons. Similarly, private hospitals are also sufficiently equipped to treat affected patients. In the Karur District, 626 beds have been allotted in 14 places in Government and private hospitals for Covid -19. N95 masks, three-fold masks, PPE Kits, Thermal Scanner, RT-PCR Kits, zinc and multi-vitamin tablets are available in sufficient numbers in the District. Every day, 39 fever camps are conducted in the District. So far, 10,647 fever camps have been conducted and 8,88,347 persons have been tested.

As the District administration and the Health Department followed the guidelines announced by Hon'ble Amma's Government meticulously, the virus spread in the District has been reduced. Yesterday(15.12.2020) only 5 persons were affected by the virus and there were no casualties. The District administration's actions have yielded good results.

As per the statement made by me on the floor of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly under Rule 110, Chief Minister's Special Grievance Redressal Camp was conducted in the District. A target of 5,000 house pattas had been fixed for the financial year 2019-2020 and so far 4,196 pattas have been distributed. Out of 9,868 petitions received for old-age pension, solutions have been found for 8,421 petitions. Following representations received from Hon'ble Ministers, MLAs and people's representatives for increasing the property value for old-age pension, the Government has accepted the demand and the old-age pension is now given based on the new guideline value of property. After the relaxation of the guideline value of properties, 6,676 old-age pensions have been sanctioned. From the year 2019 to 2020, 15,097 old-age pensions have been sanctioned including for those who are included after the relaxation. Only in Karur District old age pensions have been sanctioned within a short period. Out of 35,327 petitions received in the Chief Minister's Special Grievance Camp, a solution has been found for 23,939 petitions.

Under the Kudimaramathu Scheme, between the financial years 2016-2017 and 2020-2021, 94 works worth Rs. 14.20 Crore have been taken and 90 works have been completed. The remaining 4 works are in progress. For de-silting channels, Rs, 1.76 Crore has been allotted, 20 works were taken up and canals to a length of 45.90 km length have been de-silted. In the current financial year (2020-2021), Rs. 1.38 Crore has been allotted for de-silting to a length of 42.65 km.

With the financial assistance of NABARD, check dams have been constructed across the Bhavani river and Nanganjiyaru, at a cost of Rs.22 Crore. Under the Water Resources and Land Development Scheme, with a view to protect the Water Bodies Restoration and Management Project of Amaravathi sub basin, 7 works have been completed at a cost of Rs.18 Crore, including construction of new check dams, channels and renovation of dams.

In Karur District, in the Cauvery Basin, work has been going on to expand the Kattalai High Level Canal and to renovate it at a cost of Rs. 335.50 Crore. Through this, 20,185 acres of land in Karur District will get assured irrigation. For renovating Ponds, Dams and Supply Channels for a length of 158.35 km in the Noyyal River, Rs. 230 Crore has been allotted and work has been going on. Work is going on for a two-way bridge, at a cost of Rs.7 Crore, across South Bank Canal, Krishnarayapuram Canal, New Kattalai High-level Canal and North Bank Canal in Mayanur Village in Krishnarayapuram Division. The Hon'ble Union Minister of Home laid the foundation stone for construction of a barrage across the river Cauvery in Nanjai Pugalur Village in Pugalur Division at a cost of Rs. 406.50 Crore. Expansion, renovation and renewal of all infrastructure under Lower Bhavani Scheme in Erode, Tiruppur and Karur have been taken up at a cost of Rs. 933.10 Crore.

Renovation of Kattalai barrage in Mayanur Village in Krishnarayapuram Division in Karur District, at a cost of Rs. 189 Crore, is under

consideration of the Government. Renovation of Pugalur Canal at cost of Rs. 40 Crore in Kodumudi, Pugalur, and Manmangalam Divisions in Erode and Karur Districts is under consideration of the Government. Restoration of Veerarakkiyam Tank in Krishnarayapuram Division to its original shape, at a cost Rs. 15 Crore is under consideration of the Government. Construction of a check dam across Amaravathi Dam in Periya Thirumangalam area in Aravakuruchi Division, at a cost of Rs.10.30 Crore, is under consideration of the Government.

I have opened the new medical college and hospital, constructed at a cost of Rs.269.59 Crore, in Karur and they have come into use.

Construction of the Trial Court at a cost of Rs. 3.34 Crore in the Integrated Court Building Complex is under progress. Construction of Pugalur Tahsildar Office building and quarters are in progress at a cost of Rs. 3.05 Crore. With NABARD assistance, additional classroom buildings, science laboratory and toilets for students, have been constructed at a cost Rs.3 Crore for the Government Higher Secondary Schools in Alathur and Jagadhabi. Security rooms for Electronic Voting Machines are being constructed at a cost of Rs. 2.22 Crore at the Collectorate Complex.

Under the Highways Department, a detailed project report has been prepared, at a cost of Rs 10 Lakh, for upgrading the road linking Sukkaliyur on National Highway 7 and Thanneerpandal on National Highway 67 with Karur, and for constructing a highway bridge across the Amaravathi river. For land acquisition, Rs.23.45 Crore has been allotted. Land acquisition work is going on for constructing a highway bridge across the river Cauvery between Nerur in Karur District and Unniyur in Tiruchirappalli District. Tender is under consideration for constructing a highway bridge at 218/6 km on the Tiruchirappalli-Nagapattinam-Gudalur- Mysore Road at a cost of Rs.30.52 Crore.

Green houses have been constructed in large numbers in Karur District. Between 2017 and 2020, 3,033 houses, at a cost of Rs. 51.56 Crore, have been taken up, of which 2,247 houses have been brought to use. The remaining houses are in the finishing stages. Under Jal Jeevan Mission, 416 works have been taken during the financial year 2020-2021 and work is going on for providing 43,860 drinking water connections.

In Karur District, 4,774 Self-Financing Groups are functioning with 51,079 members. During the last 3 years, Rs. 689.41 Crore was given as bank linked loan to these self help Groups. For the financial year 2020-2021, a target of Rs. 423 Crore has been fixed and so far 49.62 Crore has been given to 21,816 persons.

Under the Amma Two Wheeler Scheme, during the financial year 2019-2020, 1,475 women were given two wheelers with a subsidy Rs. 3.69 Crore out of an allotment of 1,535 two wheelers. During the last 3 years, 4,530 two wheelers have been given with a subsidy of Rs. 11.28 Crore.

As far as drinking water schemes are concerned, 99 per cent of the Combined Water Supply water schemes, at a cost of Rs.52.75 Crore, for 253 villages in Kulithalai and Thogaimalai Panchayat Unions in the District have been completed and trial run is going on. Soon it will be brought into public use. Eighty-five per cent of the Combined Water Supply Scheme work for 274 villages in Thanthoni Panchayat Union, at a cost of Rs.81.41 Crore, has been completed. Steps are being taken to complete the remaining work at the earliest. Work on a combined drinking water supply scheme for Athur, Poolampalayam and other 5 panchayats in Karur Panchayat Union, at a cost of Rs. 9 Crore, is going on. Fifteen per cent of the work has been completed.The balance work will be completed before 2021 and the scheme be made available for public use.

Under the Urban Drinking Water scheme, 92 per cent of the work for Karur Municipality Drinking Water Improvement Scheme, at a cost of Rs.23.84 Crore, has been completed. Work is going on for a drinking water scheme in Inam Karur Municipality, for the benefit of 1,10,000

people at a cost of Rs.18.57 Crore; 95 per cent of the work has been completed. Parts of the completed work are in public use. The remaining work will be completed soon and brought to public use. A Drinking Water Supply Scheme for Thanthoni Municipality at a cost of Rs.25.16 Crore, has been completed and now it has been brought to public use.

Estimate report has been prepared and submitted to Jal Jeevan Mission for approval for Rs.486.61 Crore for a Combined Water Supply Scheme for 756 tenements in 50 panchayat unions in K.Paramathi and Aravakurichi Panchayat Unions in the District. Another scheme: Work on preparing an estimate report has begun for a Drinking Water Supply Scheme for 529 tenements in 46 panchayats under Krishnarayapuram and Kadavur Panchayat Unions. Steps will be taken to complete these two schemes at the earliest.

A number of houses have been constructed under the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board in the District. In Sanappiratti in Karur Division 192 multi-storied tenements have been constructed, at a cost of Rs. 16.08 Crore, and handed over to 192 beneficiaries. In Thoranakkalpatti in Karur Division, 640 multi-storied tenements, built at a cost of Rs. 55.50 Crore, are at the finishing stage. In Puliyur in Karur Division, 288 multi-storied tenements are under construction at a cost of Rs. 25.90 Crore. Thirty-two tenements, at a cost of Rs. 2.93 Crore, in Velampadi Village in Aravakurichi are under construction.

Under the concrete house in own plots scheme, house construction, at a cost of Rs.54.78 Crore, is going on for 1,826 beneficiaries in Ward 1 to Ward 48 in Karur Municipality. In Kulithalai Municipality, house construction, at a cost of Rs. 4.92 Crore, is going on for 164 beneficiaries from Ward 1 to Ward 25. As far as town panchayats are concerned, in Old Jayankonda Cholapuram, Krishnarayapuram, Maruthur, Nagavaram, Punjai Pugazhur, Punjai Thottapuram and Kagithapuram, 599 beneficiaries have been selected and house construction is going on at a cost of Rs. 17.97 Crore.

Under the Agriculture Department, under the crop insurance scheme, in the last 4 years, 33,641 farmers have been registered. So far, 25,628 farmers received a compensation of Rs. 42.94 Crore. During severe drought in 2016-2017 under the State Disaster Response Fund, 34,058 farmers received a relief of Rs. 14.87 Crore. In the last 3 years, 7 middle schools in the District have been upgraded as High schools and 2 high schools as Higher Secondary Schools. As far as the Industries Department is concerned, under the Central Government's unsecured emergency additional loan scheme, loan sanction has been made for Rs. 218.22 Crore to,4,115 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

At the Global Investors Meet, Asian Fabricx, with an investment of Rs. 350 Crore, has started commercial production of house-hold fabrics, providing employment to 700 persons. Mosquito net production has started with an investment of Rs. 352 Crore, providing employment to 2,100 people. Memorandum of Understanding was signed for an investment of Rs. 2,100 Crore in the year 2019 that would facilitate employment to 832 persons. In this District, many SIDCO Industrial estates are functioning, providing employment to thousands of people.

In Punjaikalakurichi village in Aravakurichi Taluk in the District, an Integrated Textile Park, with the assistance of Japan International Co-operative Agency, was set up in 2018-2019. Hundred industrial plots have been developed here and steps are being taken to allot these plots to entrepreneurs of textile production.

Following representations from the local people, MPs, and MLAs, during the academic year 2020-2021 a Government Arts and Science College was started at Tharangambadi with an intake of 282 students so that students from the poor strata of society have access to higher education.

I am happy to inform you that Hon'ble Amma's Government has implemented many schemes for the Karur District and more schemes are under consideration.

Nandri! Vanakkam.!

News in pictures

Development works in Karur District

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** declared open 28 completed scheme works valued at Rs. 118.53 Crore and laid foundation stones for 2,089 new scheme works to be executed at an estimate of Rs. 627 Crore, at a function held at the District Collectorate, Karur on 16.12.2020.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** distributed Government welfare assistance to beneficiaries at a function held at the District Collectorate, Karur on 16.12.2020. Hon'ble Minister for Electricity Prohibition and Excise Thiru. P.Thangamani, Hon'ble Minister for Transport Thiru. M.R. Vijayabhaskar, MLAs, District Collector Tmt. S.Malarvizhi I.A.S. and other high Government officials were present on the occasion.

Infrastructure facilities for schools created at a cost of Rs.7.5 Crore

Honb'le Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami,** at the Secretariat, Chennai on 21.12.2020, declared open on behalf of the School Education Department, school buildings for Puliangudi Government Girls Higher Secondary School in Tenkasi District, Kallikudi Government Higher Secondary School in Madurai District, Devala Government Higher Secondary School in the Nilgiris District and Meenakshinaickenpatti Government High School in Dindigul District, all constructed at a total cost of Rs.7.51 Crore, through video conferencing.

The Government of Tamil Nadu, which follows in the footsteps of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has been implementing various schemes to provide the best education to all students in the State so that they excel in education and come up in life. Towards this end, the Government has been providing free education, bus passes, bicycles, uniforms, school books and note books, laptops and education kits and footwear all at no cost as well as incentives to reduce drop outs.

In this way, under the NABARD Loan Scheme, 3 Government Higher Secondary schools in Tenkasi, Madurai and the Nilgiris Districts have been provided classrooms, laboratories, and toilets at a cost of Rs.5.82 Crore.

Under the Integrated School Education Scheme, new classrooms, library room, computer room and toilets for the Meenakshinaickenpatti Government High School in Dindigul District, at a cost of Rs.1.69 Crore.

Totally, infrastructure facilities built at a cost of Rs.7.51 Crore were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister through video conferencing from the Secretariat on 21.12.2020. ■

The National-level kala utsav competition for 2019-2020 was held at Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh. In the competition, students belonging to Tamil Nadu participated. In the men's section, H.Viswas won the First Prize in Instrumental Music (men), S.Vasanth won the First Prize in Painting Competition and Selvi M.S.Hamsavardhini won the Third Prize in Instrumental Music (women). These students showed their certificates, cash prizes and shields to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, who congratulated them for their performance.

News in Picture

To mark the appointment of shift engineers to fill 10 vacant posts in modern rice mills of the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation and assistant managers (quality control) to fill the 7 vacant posts in the quality control section, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** presented appointment orders to 5 persons as a token at the Secretariat, Chennai on 21.12.2020.

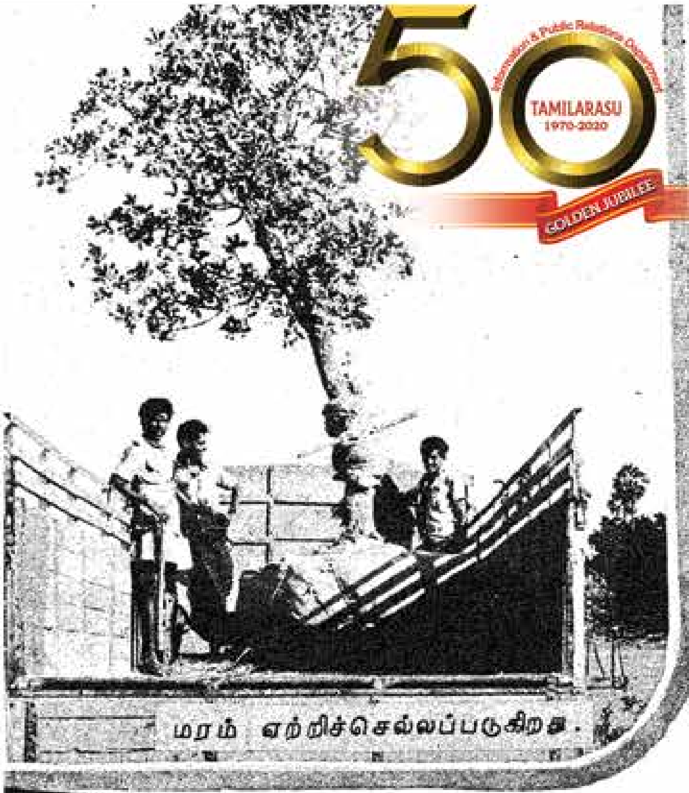
Hon'ble Chief Minister orders separate welfare board for fire-cracker, match-box workers

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami made the following statement at Virudhunagar on 11.11.2020:-

Hon'ble Amma's Government is at the forefront in providing social security to workers in the unorganized sector. At present, workers in the fire-cracker and match-box industries get their welfare assistance through the Manual Workers Welfare Board. Following requests from the Hon'ble Minister for Dairy Development, Hon'ble Members of the Legislature and trade union members of the fire-cracker and match-box industries and in the interests of 4 lakh workers in these industries, I am happy to inform you that Hon'ble Amma's Government will set up a separate unorganized Workers Welfare Board for the workers in the fire-cracker and match-box manufacturing industries.

Following this statement, Hon'ble Chief Minister issued orders for the setting up of the Board with the following representatives as members: Hon'ble Minister for Labour Welfare – President; Government Representatives – Secretary, Department of Labour and Employment, Labour Commissioner and Director of Industrial Safety and Health; as non-official members - to represent employers – a representative of fire-cracker industry, a representative of match-box industry and a representative of the Federation of Industries; to represent the workers – a representative from the fire-cracker industry trade union, a representative from the match-box industry trade union and a representative from other trade unions. As per the above order, a G.O. has been issued on 30.12.2020.

This Board will commence its activities with the 62,661 fire-cracker and match-box manufacturing workers already registered with the Tamil Nadu Manual Workers Social Safety and Welfare Board. As of date, there are 1,250 licensed fire cracker industries and 870 licensed match box industries. The Director of Industrial Safety and Health has informed that there are about 1,20,000 workers in these factories. All the unorganized workers in these factories can become members of this new Welfare Board and benefit. The headquarters of this board will function from Chennai. ■



மரம் ஏற்றிச்செல்லப்படுகிறது.

மரம் நடு விழா!

அண்மையில் செங்கை மாவட்டத்தில் மரம் நடுவிழா நடைபெற்றிருக்கிறது. செடியை நட்டுவிட்டு மரம் நடுவிழா (வன மகோத்சவம்) என்று சொல்வார்களே அப்படி இல்லாமல் மெய்யாகவே ஓர் இடத்திலுள்ள மரத்தைப் பெயர்த்து எடுத்து வந்து மற்றோர் இடத்தில் நடுகின்ற விழா இது!

புதிர் போடுவது போலத் தோன்றுகிறதல்லவா? புதிரல்ல! நடைபெற்ற நிகழ்ச்சி-நடைபெறும் நிகழ்ச்சி -நாளையும் நடைபெறப் போகும் நிகழ்ச்சி.

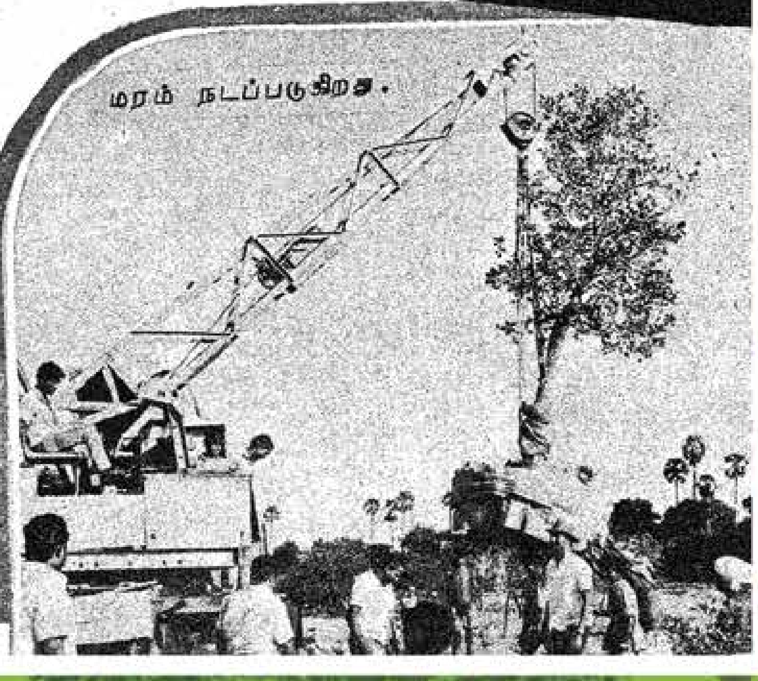
வேடந்தாங்கலுக்குப் பறவைகள் சரண்புக வருகின்றன அல்லவா? அவை ஏரியின் உள்ளே காணப்பெறும் நீர்க்கடப்பை மரங்களைத்தான் நாடி வருகின்றன. அருகில் வேறு பல வகை மரங்கள் இருந்தாலும் நீர்க்கடப்பை மரங்களில் தான் பறவைகள் கூடு கட்டுகின்றன; குடியிருக்கின்றன. எனவே ஏரியினுள் நீர்க் கடப்பை மரங்களை அதிக அளவில் இடம்பெறச் செய்ய வேண்டும் என்ற முடிவுக்கு வந்துள்ளனர் தமிழக அரசின் வனத்துறையினர்.

சென்ற ஆண்டு, ஆய்வு முறையில் இந்தப் பணி நடைபெற்றது. ஏறக்குறைய 9 மரங்கள் பெயர்த்து நடப்பெற்றன. அவற்றில் 8 மரங்கள் உயிர் பெற்றுத் தழைத்தன. அதனால் இந்தப் பணியைத் தொடர்வதற்கு வனத்துறை முடிவெடுத்தது. அண்மையில் சில மரங்கள் நடப்பெற்றுள்ளன. மொத்தம் 100மரங்களை இந்த ஆண்டுக்குள் நடுவதற்குத் திட்டம் உள்ளது.

வேடந்தாங்கலுக்கு அருகில் உள்ள சிற்றூரில் இந்த நீர்க்கடப்பை மரங்கள் உண்டாக்கப்பெற்று, அவை அப்படியே பெயர்த்து எடுத்து வரப்பெற்று, நடப் பெறுகின்றன. இதில் கவனிக்கப்பட வேண்டிய செய்தி என்னவென்றால், இந்த மரங்கள் பெயர்த்துக் கொண்டு வரப்பட்ட 24 மணி நேரத்துக்குள் மீண்டும் நடப்பெற வேண்டும்.

எனவே நீர்க்கடப்பை மரங்கள் மிக அதிக அளவில் நடப்பெறுவதால் புத்தாண்டில் (1975) சரணாலயம் நோக்கிப் பறவைகள் படையெடுத்து வரும் என்று எதிர்பார்க்கப்பெறுகிறது.

—த. பி.



மரம் நடப்படுகிறது.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** launched a Geographic Information System (GIS) a web portal of SIPCOT, at the Growth and Investment Conclave held at Chennai on 14.12.2020.

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The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** launched the Chief Minister's Amma Mini Clinic and released its Logo, at a function held at Sheik Maistry Street in Royapuram zone of Greater Chennai Corporation on 14.12.2020.

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